The Nation.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 1887.

The Week.

THE most immediate and striking effect of the President's message is the split which it has caused in the Republican party. It is a wedge which sinks deep into a crack that has long been widening between the high-tariff and the low-tariff elements in the party. Our political history does not furnish an instance where a deliverance by the head of one party has commanded such hearty praise from leading representatives of the other as Mr. Cleveland's message has drawn from Republican politicians like Gov. McGill and ex-Congressman Washburn of Minnesota, and from Republican organs like the Chicago *Tribune*. And if Mr. Cleveland's message was the wedge, Mr. Blaine's interview was the mallet which is driving it still deeper into the Republican party. There was no stronger advocate of the Republican candidate in 1884 than the Chicago *Tribune*, but the Chicago *Tribune* now says that "Mr. Blaine's general position will not commend itself to the American people," that "it is the weakest ground Mr. Blaine has ever yet occupied," and that "no national party can expect to go into a Presidential campaign on that issue, no matter who may be its leaders, and win."

While the Republican party is thus split on the overshadowing issue of the day, the Democratic party is more nearly united than ever before. It is a notable sign of the drift that the President's attitude has been approved by the Randall Club of Pittsburgh, the chief Democratic organization of that protectionist Pennsylvanian city. The Democratic party is now beginning to enjoy the advantage of possessing a leader of courage and force, who recognizes the fact that—to use the Chicago *Tribune's* words—"unquestionably an immense majority of the American people believe in remitting a large share of these oppressive taxes which bear upon the producing and consuming classes with crushing weight." If there were Democrats who doubted the wisdom of boldness, they are already shown their error by the testimony of shrewd Republican politicians and newspapers, which perceive and confess that the President has the people on his side.

It has suited some people to say that the depression in Wall Street is due to the fear of tariff legislation. The truth is, that it is due to the fear of no legislation at all—the fear that the Republicans will insist on one kind of surplus reduction and the Democrats on another kind, and that between them the black cloud will grow larger and larger and blacker and blacker. We do not share these gloomy views. We believe the surplus will be reduced in a manner that will satisfy every considerable branch of trade and industry, and without shocking the moral sense of the community by a repeal of the whiskey tax. We believe that the manufacturers themselves know this, although they are just now making a great racket, as witness the following paragraph in Monday's *Tribune*:

"The Joliet Steel Company gives notice that its works are to be closed indefinitely; a year ago orders were booked for 80,000 tons for the next year, but now the mills have orders for not a ton. Mr. Clarke, of the Thomas Company, is quoted as saying, 'Most of the steel-rail mills will shut down before Christmas. The demand was growing lighter, and the President's message drives another nail in our coffin.'"

The simple fact is, that railroad building has slackened because it has been much overdone the past year. Our history is full of just such ups and downs when there was no surplus to be got rid of, and when the Republican party was in full possession of every branch of the Government. The nail in the coffin of the steel-rail combination is a very bright yellow one this year. They have made a million tons, and have kept the price at just the figures which would prevent importations, or have tried to do so. We believe that for a short time they could not hold themselves down to that price, viz., $18 to $20 cost, plus $17 duty. They got the bonus of $17 duty on a million tons of rail, *i. e.*, $17,000,000 over and above what similar rails were offered for. The nail in their coffin is therefore composed of solid gold this year, whatever it may have been in the years 1873-78, when they had everything their own way in politics, and when the duty was $28 per ton instead of $17.

According to Mr. Blaine, we shall have, if President Cleveland have his way, to take say a thousand millions worth of additional iron, cotton, and woollen goods which the foreigner is to unload on us, without being able to export any additional merchandise of our own in payment. He apparently thinks we can meet the liability with gold and silver. But he deceives himself on this point. Our total annual product of gold and silver is under $85,000,000. According to the report of the Director of the Mint, the total amount of both gold and silver in the United States in June, 1886, whether in the United States Treasury, the banks, or in private hands, was in round numbers $857,000,000. So that to pay for such an addition to our importations we should have to strip the Treasury, the banks, and private individuals, male and female, of every coin they have in the world, and to take from the miners the whole of their year's gross earnings, and we should still be "short." The only possible chance of escape from this frightful situation would be in an appeal to the mercy of foreigners. We should have to ask them, in the name of our common humanity, not to bring their goods here and impose them on a suffering and impecunious people in such enormous quantities. That they would listen to such an appeal, we confess frankly we do not for one moment believe. A British or German manufacturer, eager for exportation, has no bowels. We verily believe that if we could not pay for them, he would inflict on us the worst of calamities, by giving them away. Cheap foreign commodities are hard to bear, but what are they compared to foreign commodities which cost nothing?

We can hardly be wrong in assuming that "M. H.," who wrote in the *Times* of Tuesday on the constitutionality of Mr. Blaine's scheme, is Matthew Hale of Albany, a lawyer very competent to speak on such a question. Mr. Blaine's proposal is that the whiskey tax should be maintained, first, in order to build fortifications along the coast, and then, when this work was done, and the "National Government should have no use for the money, he would divide the tax among the Federal Union, *with the specific object of lightening the tax on real estate.*" In other words, he would actually raise a surplus by Federal taxation for the "specific object" of helping the owners of a particular kind of property to pay their State taxes! We do not believe any suggestion so extraordinary has ever before emanated from a public man outside District Assembly No. 49 of this city. No American politician has ever laid such an idea before his countrymen at large. As Mr. Hale points out, the Constitution empowers Congress "to lay and collect taxes, duties, imposts, and excises, to pay the debts, and provide for the common defence and general welfare of the United States"—for these purposes and no others. But here is a man whom one of the great parties is disposed to present for the second time as a candidate for the Presidency, who cuts out a platform for himself, under which Congress would levy taxes simply to help the owners of one kind of property to escape the burdens laid on them by their own States. We abuse Powderly, and Quinn, and their kind a good deal for their folly and ignorance of the laws, but, after this, how can we ever be hard on them again?

Of course, if Congress can tax us for one "specific object" of this kind, it might tax us for a dozen others. It might tax us to make good the losses of sheep-owners from dogs, or to help lower the railroad fares of the suburban population, or to supplement wages in the coal districts, or to provide everybody whose earnings are below $600 a year with a winter overcoat. There is no end to the folly or extravagance to which this theory of surpluses might not lead. And yet the business men of this great mercantile community will probably be asked next summer to put the author of this dangerous tomfoolery in the Presidential chair, and in the interval a vigorous effort will be made to disguise his silliness and ignorance by yelling "free trade" at everybody who warns the public against him. We say his silliness and ignorance, because the whiskey-surplus-in-aid-of-real-estate-owners plan is simply silly; while his notion that if the President's recommendations were followed, we should increase our imports from Europe in

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woollen, cotton, and iron and steel goods "tenfold more" than our exports of every description, must be set down to pure ignorance. About the existing surplus he has not a word to say, except to "endorse Mr. Fred Grant's remark that a surplus is always easier to handle than a deficit," as if this were the only good and pertinent thing Mr. Fred Grant said in the late canvass. To our minds his remark on the stump, which he said he got from his father when out riding one day, that "those who rock the cradle rule the world," is a much more forcible argument in defence of a surplus than the one in which Mr. Blaine takes refuge, because it might be readily shown that a surplus is easier to "handle" than a baby, and that there are ten times as many people willing to do it. In fact, there is nothing in the world which so many people enjoy "handling" as a surplus.

The National Republican Committee have issued a call for a National Convention at Chicago at which only those "Republican electors who believe in the American principle of a protective tariff for the defence and development of home industries and the elevation of home labor," and who "would reduce the national taxes and prevent the accumulation of the surplus in the Treasury in harmony with this principle," are invited to be present or to take part in the election of delegates. They may believe in several other things which are specified in the call, but on the tariff only these views will be allowed. After this call had been issued on Friday, the Committee appointed a sub-committee to take charge of the Convention, composed of the following nine men: J. S. Clarkson, A. L. Conger, C. A. Hobart, Powell Clayton, Cyrus Leland, Church Howe, and N. W. Currey, B. F. Jones, and Samuel Fessenden. Eight of these nine are said to be Blaine men in the fullest sense of the term. Powell Clayton is the man who was chosen temporary Chairman of the Convention in 1884. A ludicrous attempt was made then to cover with a halo of military glory Clayton's record as a carpet-bagger by pointing to his loss of an arm, and asking the Convention not to "put down a man who carried an empty sleeve"; the fact being that he had lost his arm by accident. Clayton reappears now with the rest of the Blaine gang "in charge of the Convention," and that body is likely to be the most docile kind of a Blaine gathering ever assembled in the United States if they can have their way about it.

The report of the Secretary of the Treasury calls for little comment, since it follows pretty closely the lines of the President's Message. There are one or two points, however, upon which differences of opinion may be entertained among those who agree with the Secretary generally, and approve his recommendations as a whole. He takes the ground, for instance, that while the purchase by the Government of a $1,000 bond bearing 4 per cent. interest saves $800 in twenty years, yet if money is worth to the people as much as 5 per cent. in their business, there is really a loss of $200 instead of a gain of $800. In stating this view of the public-debt problem he assumes that "the average annual value of money to the whole people may safely be put at not less than 5 per cent." This is really an argument in favor of perpetuating the debt, or at least letting it stand until money in the hands of the people is worth less than the interest paid by the Government. Consequently, it is not quite logical to say, as the Secretary does in the next paragraph, that he is in favor of continuing the purchase of bonds for the sinking fund. In order that the Secretary's syllogism should stand on all fours, it should be stated that the money left in the hands of the people would in all cases be converted into capital and used reproductively at as good a rate as 5 per cent.; that none of it would be spent in drink or on luxuries, or lost in bad investments. It is quite certain that the sums paid in taxes and applied to debt extinction, are saved as effectually as though they were put in a savings bank that could never fail and that could always pay 4 per cent. interest. Is it quite certain that *all* the money left in the pockets of the people would be deposited in savings banks? Is it certain that all would be put in savings banks of this kind? If money is worth as much as 5 per cent. in the hands of the people, why do savings banks pay only 4 per cent. to small depositors and only 3 per cent. to the larger ones? Why do the people put their money in such banks at all if they can make 5 per cent. elsewhere? Where is the institution that will take all the money that people choose to deposit, at all times and seasons, and pay 5 per cent. interest on it, or 4, or 3, or even 2? These questions seem to show that one premise of the Secretary's argument is wanting.

Mr. Andrew Carnegie delivered some telling blows against Anarchy and Socialism at the "Nineteenth Century" Club last week, but none more telling than his calling attention to the published encouragement given to the Anarchists by the founder of the Club, Mr. Courtlandt Palmer, who, as Mr. Carnegie aptly observed, would himself be "a beggar" if it were not for the security of capital and rent. In fact, amateur Anarchists like Mr. Palmer, and clerical Anarchists like the Reverend Pentecost, do far more mischief than the real professionals like Most. They give an air of rationality and decency to the ravings of the professionals. Mr. Carnegie said one other most valuable thing, in protesting against the widespread notion that emigration only brings us "the scum of Europe." The fact is that it brings and has been bringing for two centuries, in the main, the most enterprising, energetic, and thrifty portion of the farming and laboring population of the Old World. It brings the men of ambition, who seek to better their condition, and are willing to toil and endure in order to do it. The Anarchists and other humbugs who have been arriving lately are mere froth on the surface of the stream. Herr Gronlund, who appeared at the Club to argue the case for the Socialists, seems to have disappointed everybody, as Socialists usually do when they undertake to show us how to be Socialistic. It is so easy to denounce capital and describe poverty, and so hard to explain to us how we are to reorganize society in such a way that human laziness and vice and folly shall not interfere with social happiness and prosperity. Small blame, therefore, to the brave Gronlund for having left his audience as wise as he found them.

Another clergyman is about to fall upon the hands of the Anti-Poverty Society for support. The Rev. J. C. F. Grumbine, of the First Universalist Church of Syracuse, has been asked to resign by his congregation because of his espousal of the McGlynn-George doctrines. This will make it necessary for the Anti-Poverty Society to start another service in this city with a collection. Mr. George and Dr. McGlynn have their regular evening service and collection, the Reverend Pentecost is to have a morning service and collection, and there is nothing for it but to give the Reverend Grumbine either a midday or afternoon service with a collection. There is evidently going to be a good deal of poverty to be abolished in this way before the winter is over.

High license is working in Pennsylvania as it does everywhere else. It is causing a great reduction in the number of saloons from the moment it goes into operation. The necessity of getting bondsmen who will become surety for the law-abiding conduct of those taking out licenses, is in its way as great a restrictive influence as the high fee. In order to keep a liquor-store in Philadelphia, for example, under the new law, a man must first pay a fee of $500 in advance. Then he must get two reputable freeholders of the ward in which he wishes to open his saloon, each of whom must own unencumbered real estate worth over $2,000, and must not be engaged in the manufacture of liquors, to go on his bond of $2,000. Then he must have his petition for a license accompanied by the certificate of twelve reputable electors of the ward that they have known him for six months, that they endorse his application and have signed no other such petition in that year. The bondsmen must be among these endorsers and must take oath to their endorsement. It is not surprising that in the face of such requirements the number of saloons in Philadelphia is being reduced enormously. In two of the worst wards of the city there were under the old law 569 saloons. It would require 1,138 separate bondsmen, with real estate worth $2,276,000, to permit all these to take out licenses under the new law, and there is not enough resident property in the wards to furnish them.

The requirement of bondsmen "who are not engaged in the manufacture of liquors" is one of the most direct blows which could be aimed at the liquor traffic. In this city, for example, very few of the ostensible keep-

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ers of liquor-stores own them. The real owners are the brewers, who employ the keepers as their agents. Under the Pennsylvania law no man can hold a license for more than one saloon, or can get a license if he has any pecuniary interest in another saloon. This would put a stop to the brewers taking out licenses by the wholesale, in their own names, while the bondsmen provision would put an end to their taking them out in the names of men who were merely their agents. There has been no more prolific source of saloons than this wholesale ownership by the brewers and manufacturers. Combined with a low license fee, it has led to such an enormous multiplication of saloons that they are on nearly every street-corner, and are sprinkled all through the blocks in many parts of the city. In drawing a high-license bill for the next Legislature, the advocates of temperance in this State should take these Pennsylvania provisions into consideration.

The conduct of Mr. Steckler, one of the newly elected civil justices, in rewarding Barney Rourke for his campaign services by giving him a clerkship in his court, is merely a fresh indication of the dangerous extent to which our minor courts have come to be saturated with "politics" in its worst form. Rourke was a leader of the rival political party, but he sold out his party's candidate and worked for Mr. Steckler, and has now received his pay in the form of a clerkship. Such a man's presence as the official of a court is not only a scandal, but is a perpetual obstacle to the impartial administration of justice. It puts a trading politician in a position where he can be useful to his allies. In how many of the other civil-justice courts in the city such men are to be found we do not know, but a startling suggestion of the condition of affairs in our police courts is furnished by the single fact that every one of our eleven police justices is a district machine leader, and sits upon the police bench in the dual character of a district boss and a police magistrate. It would be difficult to conceive of a more pernicious combination of powers than that.

Now that the age of public men is made an "issue" by Mr. Lamar's nomination to the bench, it is interesting to recall the forgotten fact that a century ago, when the Federal Constitution was framed, the Constitution of New York made sixty years the limit of a judge's service, on the ground that after that period the decay of his faculties was likely to impair his usefulness. One of Hamilton's papers in the *Federalist* defends at some length the omission from the Federal Constitution of a provision for removing the judges on account of inability, and argues that the New York limit was unreasonable, inasmuch as "the deliberating and comparing faculties generally preserve their strength much beyond that period in men who survive it." The whole incident seems very odd to people of this generation, but it only illustrates in a striking way the lengthening of the period of human activity which has come about during the past century. The last judge who went upon the Supreme bench, Mr. Blatchford, like the one next to mount it, Mr. Lamar, had celebrated the completion of his sixty-second year, but they both find among their associates, with mental vigor still unimpaired, one of seventy-four and three of seventy-one. It is another evidence of the remarkable wisdom which characterized the framers of the Constitution, that they resisted the then natural temptation to place some arbitrary limit upon the period of a judge's service.

The failure of Plymouth Church to get Mr. Berry must seriously aggravate the difficulty of finding any one to take Mr. Beecher's place, because, now that it has been rejected by an Englishman, the offer of it will seem much less attractive to an American. The disposition of congregations in our great cities to go abroad for their pastors, which has been somewhat marked of late, seems to indicate that there is a greater flow of talent into the ministerial profession in England nowadays than in America. This, if true, is a social phenomenon of some interest; but it would take a good deal of space to analyze it.

President Carnot has at last found some one able and willing to form a Ministry in the person of M. Tirard. The difficulty he has met with in finding such a person, however, indicates pretty clearly that M. Tirard's Cabinet is a very fragile structure, and will not last long. In fact, no Republican Ministry can have much vitality without the support of the Extreme Left, which it cannot get, or of the Extreme Right, which, even if it could get, it would be afraid to accept. The Moderates are cut up into so many "groups" that cohesion is almost impossible, a fact of which all are so well aware that but few are willing to take office under them, through fear of the discredit of a short or fruitless term of service.

The latest appeal of M. de Lesseps for the privilege of issuing a lottery loan, in order to raise more money for the Panama Canal, is met by a crushing article from M. Leroy-Beaulieu in the *Économiste Français*. The most serious part of his criticism is the charge of lying which he brings against M. de Lesseps. He shows beyond a doubt that Lesseps, in his official communication to the Government asking for the lottery privilege, understated the present liabilities of his company by the large sum of 124,000,000 francs. M. de Lesseps, in this communication, stated his bond obligations to be 635,000,000 fr. But the official bulletin of the Bourse for the 12th of November, three days before the communication was written, gave a statement in detail of the company's listed and outstanding obligations, showing that they had reached the sum of 759,000,000 fr., exclusive of the share capital. To grant the request of M. de Lesseps for a lottery loan, says M. Leroy-Beaulieu, would be simply to give the moral support of the Government to the belief that the investment would be remunerative. The Government, he continues, would commit an enormous fault by sanctioning in any manner "the always lying promises of the company."

The main interest of the new fair-trade movement in England lies in the fear that it may lead to a dissolution. That it can lead to any change in British fiscal policy at present is, of course, wildly improbable. Nobody expects this. But it may lead to action in the House of Commons which would break up the coalition of Conservatives and Liberal-Unionists, by compelling the latter, who are all Free-Traders, to vote once more with the Liberals. This would undoubtedly compel a dissolution, and a dissolution is the thing of all things which the coalition dreads, and is determined not to have if it can be avoided. Fifty at least of the seventy Liberal-Unionists would lose their seats for their breach of their pledges to oppose coercion in Ireland, and this would turn the Tories out of power. Their calculation now is to keep this Parliament intact for its full legal term, that is, until 1890 or 1891, by which time, it is hoped, Gladstone will be dead or disabled, and the Irish question would then die out or be got out of the way, and the Irish, through the steady application of the Coercion Act, gradually grow peaceable and fond of the British connection. Hence the emphatic warning which Hartington gave the "Fair Traders" in his speech last Thursday.

The Court of Appeals in England has overthrown the somewhat famous decision of the Queen's Bench in the case of Mr. Bell Cox, the recusant priest. It will be remembered that Mr. Bell Cox ignored Lord Penzance's sentence of six months' suspension from his cure for alleged offences under the Public Worship Regulation Act, on the ground of want of authority of State courts in things spiritual, and thereupon was put in jail. At the expiration of the six months' period application was made for his release, with the argument that, the term of suspension having elapsed, Mr. Bell Cox could not possibly be offending against the sentence. Much was said on the other side about his conduct being a "continuing offence," and the imprisonment being of a penal nature rather than a mechanical or physical means of "suspension" from sacred functions; but the fact being that there was no other means apparent of ever releasing him, and his imprisonment having become an awkward scandal, the Court of Queen's Bench was glad to let him out, on the rather fine point which we have mentioned—that he could not be in disobedience towards a sentence which had expired. The Court of Appeals made short work of this, and held unanimously that the imprisonment was not a mere mode of making the sentence effective, but was of the nature of a penalty for past disobedience. The Court therefore discharged the rule for a habeas corpus, but the Master of the Rolls ventured the hope that Mr. Bell Cox would not be again imprisoned unless for some fresh offence.

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SUMMARY OF THE WEEK'S NEWS.

[WEDNESDAY, December 7, to TUESDAY, December 13, 1887, inclusive.]

DOMESTIC.

A GENERAL Christian conference, under the auspices and direction of the Evangelical Alliance of the United States, of which William E. Dodge of New York is President, and Rev. Dr. Josiah Strong of New York is General Secretary, opened in Washington December 7. The meeting lasted three days, and discussed measures upon which all Protestant denominations may be brought to unite to meet certain new and pressing emergencies which have arisen in connection with the great increase of wealth, business, immigration, the changed relations of labor and capital, and the great and growing percentage of our population who are not church members or attendants. The delegates were received at the White House, and President Cleveland made a speech, in which he said: "I am especially pleased to know that your efforts are not cramped and limited by denominational lines, and that your credentials are found in a broad Christian fellowship. Manifestly, if you seek to teach your countrymen toleration, you yourselves must be tolerant; if you would teach them liberality for the opinions of each other, you yourselves must be liberal, and if you would teach them unselfish patriotism, you yourselves must be unselfish and patriotic. There is enough of work in the field you have entered to enlist the hearty cooperation of all who believe in the value and efficacy of Christian teaching and practice. Your noble mission, if undertaken in a broad and generous spirit, will arrest the attention and respectful consideration of your fellow-citizens; and your endeavors, consecrated by benevolence and patriotic love, must exert a powerful influence in the enlightenment and improvement of our people, in illustrating the strength and stability of our institutions, and in advancing the prosperity and greatness of our beloved land."

The annual report of the Secretary of the Treasury shows the present surplus in the Treasury to be $55,258,701. The receipts were $371,403,277, of which $217,286,893 was from customs and $118,823,391 from internal revenues. The expenses were $315,835,428, of which the heaviest items were $75,029,101 for pensions, $38,561,025 for military expenses and rivers and harbors, $47,741,577 for interest, and $47,903,248 for the sinking fund. The increase of receipts over the fiscal year 1886 was $34,963,550. The increase in customs receipts was, in round numbers, $240,000, from internal revenue $2,000,000, and from the sales of public lands and profits on the coinage, $3,000,000 each. The increase in expenditures was $25,449,041, of which over $11,000,000 was for pensions. The decrease in the interest on the public debt was nearly $3,000,000. For the present fiscal year the revenues, actual and estimated, are $383,000,000, and the total expenditures, including sinking fund, $316,817,785.48; estimated surplus, $66,182,214.52.

The report of Mr. Endicott, Secretary of War, shows that on the entire Atlantic and Gulf coast line of 2,870 miles, and the northern frontier of 2,530 miles, the only armament is 142 rifled guns, of which 116 are obsolete and of very low power. The Secretary strongly approves of the recommendation contained in Gen. Sheridan's report touching the extension of all possible aid by the general Government to the National Guard of the different States, and suggesting a system of national encampments for State militia at the entire expense of the national Government. The report says that the results attained in the cavalry, artillery, and infantry schools of instruction justify the expectations of those who established them, and that "the results of the examinations for promotion under the civil-service regulations, which were applied to the War Department in May, were satisfactory. The total number of clerks examined was 1,014, of whom 963, or 95 per cent., passed; and of this number 353, or 35 per cent., obtained an average above 90 per cent.; 51, or 5 per cent., failed to pass, their average being less than 75 per cent."

Secretary Whitney's report was sent to Congress December 9. He says that, with the exception of two cases, the Department has practically abandoned the idea of the unprotected torpedo boat, but he recommends the continuance of experiments in submarine boats. He is opposed to any further appropriations of money for work on the single-turreted monitors. The Secretary recommends the construction of five new ships, as follows: Two armor-clad vessels to cost, exclusive of armament, not more than $6,000,000, one to be built by contract and one in the navy-yards, and three more fast cruisers of the highest type. He says that in six years only four of the present cruising ships will remain serviceable. In other words, the old navy will have disappeared. Encouragement of torpedo experiments is recommended, and suggestion is made that the course in the Naval Academy be reduced to four years.

Henry E. Williamson, the agent at the Crow Agency, has sent in his resignation at the request of the Secretary of the Interior, to take effect on December 31. Mr. Williamson is an uncle of Acting Commissioner of Indian Affairs Upshaw. His removal is the result of an investigation made by Inspector Armstrong during his late trip to the Crow Agency to investigate the causes of the outbreak there. The report alleges that Williamson neglected to comply with the Secretary's orders regarding the advertising of the grazing privileges on the reservation, thus leaving the monopoly in the hands of one syndicate of cattle men; that Williamson made a contract with two persons, named McCormick and McNutt, giving them the exclusive privilege to cut hay on the Crow reservation for sale to the army posts, out of which they made $15,000 a year, and it also makes personal charges.

The Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections voted Tuesday in favor of giving the West Virginia seat to Mr. Faulkner.

The important political incident of the week was a three-column interview with Mr. Blaine, reviewing the President's message, cabled from Paris to the *Tribune*. Mr. Blaine took ultra-protectionist ground, demanding the retention of the tariff intact, the repeal of the internal-revenue tax on tobacco, and the building of a system of coast defences which should use up the surplus. The interview appeared on the morning of the meeting of the Republican National Committee, and is supposed to have set the key for the call for the National Convention. There are indications of a split in the Republican party in the West on the issue. The Chicago *Tribune* repudiates Blaine's tariff programme, and the St. Paul *Pioneer Press* and the Omaha *Bee* endorse the President's demand for tariff reduction.

The Republican National Committee met at Washington December 8, and voted to hold the National Convention at Chicago, June 19. The call contains this passage: "Republican electors in the several States and voters without regard to past political affiliations, differences, or action, who believe in the American principle of a protective tariff for the defence and development of home industries and the elevation of home labor; who would reduce the national taxes and prevent the accumulation of the surplus in the Treasury in harmony with this principle; who are opposed to the attempt, now more openly avowed than ever before, to establish a policy which would strike down American labor to the level of the underpaid and oppressed workers of foreign lands; who favor a system of naval and coast defences which will enable the United States to conduct its international negotiations with self-respect; who gratefully cherish the defenders of the country; who condemn and resent the continued and unjust exclusion of rapidly growing Territories, which have an indisputable title to admission into the sisterhood of States; who are in favor of free schools and popular education, a free and honest ballot and a fair count, the protection of every citizen of the United States in his legal rights at home and abroad, a foreign policy that shall extend our trade and commerce to every land and clime, and shall properly support the dignity of the nation and the promotion of friendly and harmonious relations and intercourse between all the States, are cordially invited to unite under this call in the formation of a national ticket."

Mayor O'Brien (Dem.) of Boston was re-elected Tuesday by 1,800 plurality. Last year, with a Labor candidate in the field, he had 5,000. The Board of Aldermen stands 8 Republicans, 2 Independent Democrats, and 2 straight Democrats. The Common Council will stand 43 Democrats, 29 Republicans. This insures the continuance of the City Hall Ring.

New Haven gave a majority of 1,200 last week in favor of repairing the old State-house *on the green*, and *against tearing it down*. The effective argument was that the city needed more office room, and that the building needed only comparatively minor repairs to put it in good shape.

The General Executive Board of the Knights of Labor has sent out a "secret circular" in reference to the establishment of a Government system of telegraphy, and directs every local assembly to appoint committees and wait upon every Congressman in the separate districts and persuade them to vote for the measure. Powderly, the head of the Knights, is dangerously ill from a hemorrhage.

John Most, who had been found guilty of inciting to violence and murder, was sentenced to one year in the penitentiary by the Court of General Sessions December 8. The motion of his counsel for a new trial was heard and denied.

Henry S. Ives, whose railroad wrecking and failure were the financial sensation of the summer, was arrested Tuesday on a charge of grand larceny in connection with the affairs of the Cincinnati, Hamilton and Dayton Railroad.

E. L. Harper, the bank president who wrecked the Fidelity Bank of Cincinnati, was sentenced there December 12 to ten years in the Ohio Penitentiary. Motion for a stay was denied and the prisoner taken at once to Columbus and incarcerated. The trial of Hopkins, the cashier, is now in progress.

At the morning service in Plymouth Church, Brooklyn, Sunday, the Rev. Dr. Abbott read a despatch from the Rev. Charles Albert Berry of England, declining the pastorate of the church, on the ground that home claims made it impossible for him to come to America.

A special meeting of the New England Society, December 8, nominated this list of officers for the ensuing year: For President, ex-Judge Horace Russell; Vice-Presidents, J. Pierpont Morgan and Daniel G. Rollins; Directors, Woodbury G. Langdon, Henry E. Howland, Henry H. Bridgman, J. H. Horne; Treasurer, William Dowd; and Secretary, L. P. Hubbard. Judge Russell declined to serve another year, and Cornelius N. Bliss was nominated in his place. The election will take place Thursday.

The will of Mrs. Urania Battell Humphrey, widow of the late James Humphrey of the former law firm of Barney, Humphrey & Butler, who died recently in Norfolk, Conn., leaves $90,000 in charitable bequests, including $26,000 to Yale College.

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Mrs. Charlotte Augusta Astor, the wife of John Jacob Astor, died Sunday, December 11. Mrs. Astor was born in this city sixty-one years ago, and was the daughter of Thomas S. Gibbes, a man of wealth and culture, who came to New York from South Carolina. Her mother was Miss Van der Heuval, a sister of Mrs. John C. Hamilton. Mrs. Astor was an accomplished and very benevolent woman. Her charities were varied and unostentatious, and amounted in money, it is said, to not less than $100,000 a year. She also gave much time and personal work to enterprises for the good of others. She had but one child, William Waldorf Astor, ex-Minister to Italy.

Arch-Abbot Boniface Wimmer, O. S. B., founder of the Benedictine Order in the United States, died at St. Vincent's Abbey, Pennsylvania, December 8, after a lingering illness. He was born in Bavaria in 1809, and came to this country in 1846 to establish the Benedictine Order. The first monastery was founded at St. Vincent's.

The Rev. Isaac S. Kalloch, ex-Mayor of San Francisco, died on Friday in Washington Territory. He attained sudden prominence for the second time in 1879, when he was shot by Charles De Young of the San Francisco *Chronicle*.

FOREIGN.

The excitement of the week at Paris culminated Saturday, December 10, in an attempt to assassinate Jules Ferry by a man named Aubertin. Aubertin appeared in the hall of the Chamber of Deputies and asked to see both M. Ferry and M. Goblet. M. Goblet did not respond to Aubertin's request for an interview, but M. Ferry did, and on his appearance Aubertin drew a revolver and fired three times at him. Two of the bullets struck M. Ferry. The first passed round the chest, slightly penetrating the flesh, and the second struck on the right side, near the lowest ribs, causing a contusion. The thigh was not penetrated, and the wounds are of the slightest character. The real name of his assailant is Berekein. He is twenty years of age. He states that he is one of a band of twenty revolutionists. The band drew lots, and it fell to him to commit the first crime. Berekein declares that he swore to kill M. Ferry. He was arrested.

The greatest European excitement of the week, next to the shooting of Ferry, was a war scare between Russia and Austria, which has been assiduously cultivated by the German press, but is now declared to have been baseless. The excitement was started by a movement of some Russian troops from Warsaw to the Galician frontier. Two war conferences were promptly held at Vienna, at which the Emperor presided, and the War Office then began taking measures permanently to increase the facilities by which troops can be mobilized and to place Galicia in a better position for defence. These preparations will enable a large force to be thrown into Galicia at the shortest notice. Well-informed persons in St. Petersburg assert that the Russian Government is entirely pacific; and that public opinion in Russia is also in favor of peace; that the Russian movements on the frontier consist merely of the despatching thither of a division of cavalry, not with an aggressive idea, but for the protection of certain localities. This explanation is accepted by the best-informed European correspondents, and at Paris the alarmist rumors were attributed to Berlin financiers operating for a fall in Russian securities, and to the desire of Prince Bismarck to obtain further military credits.

M. Tirard has organized a French Ministry, with the following members: M. Tirard, Prime Minister and Minister of Finance; M. Flourens, Minister of Foreign Affairs; M. Fallières, Minister of Justice; M. Sarrien, Minister of the Interior; Gen. Logerat, Minister of War; M. de Mahy, Minister of Marine; M. Loubet, Minister of Public Works; M. Dautresme, Minister of Commerce; M. Viette, Minister of Agriculture; M. Faye, Minister of Public Instruction. The new Cabinet held a meeting on Monday, when President Carnot read his message to Parliament. The message expresses the hope that the sentiment of conciliation will continue to prevail in both houses. The passage relating to France's foreign policy is couched in the most pacific terms. The Cabinet's reply to the message will declare that the Government's desire is to begin the exhibition year with peace abroad and concord at home, and will demand as a question of confidence three provisional credits. The Cabinet is a moderate Republican body.

The London papers have devoted more space to President Cleveland's message than to any since Lincoln's. The general feeling is that it deals a tremendous blow at the fair-trade or protection party. Nearly all the papers, of varying politics, concur in high praise of President Cleveland's honesty and straightforwardness.

The new English Parliamentary rules will require the House to meet at two instead of four o'clock, adjourn at seven for dinner, reassemble at nine, and sit till half-past twelve. At that hour, by a standing order, the question will be put from the Chair, and thus automatic closure will constantly be at work. More rigorous punishment will be enforced for wilful or systematic violations of the rules. The general management of business is to be referred in the first instance to committees, as in Congress.

Lord Hartington presided at the conference in Westminster Hall, London, December 8, of Liberal-Unionists. Many leaders of the party were on the platform. Six hundred delegates were present. The Earl of Derby offered a resolution in favor of increased exertions to strengthen the Unionist party. He said that the constituencies, especially those of Scotland, showed a marked increase of feeling in favor of the dissidents. The Irish question has been so prolonged that it is possible that the people might say it must be settled somehow; but they should be made to understand that the granting of an Irish Parliament would be no settlement, but only the beginning of an agitation as violent and troublous as the last one.

The delegates of the Scotch Home-Rule Union, who have been making a tour of Ireland, have returned to Glasgow, and report that the Irish people are eager for peace, that their demands are moderate, and that the National League is the chief agency for the maintenance of law and order. They say they are convinced that the Irish are home-rulers, and not separatists. No one in Ireland fears religious persecution. The delegates declare that the measures taken by the present English Government are ineffective, and irritate the mass of the Irish nation.

Mr. Edward Harrington, M. P., was tried in the Tralee Court, Ireland, December 8, on the charge of publishing in his paper, the *Sentinel*, reports of meetings of suppressed branches of the National League, found guilty, and sentenced to a month's imprisonment, but without hard labor. Notice was given of an appeal from the sentence. The jury at Dublin, December 7, brought in a verdict of acquittal in the case of O'Leary, one of the men charged with complicity in the murder of Constable Whelehan at Lisdoonvarna, County Clare. The Judge told the jury that there was no evidence to sustain the charge that O'Leary murdered Whelehan, and instructed them to acquit him. The Attorney-General announced that he would not proceed with a capital charge against any of the seven prisoners who were arrested for connection with the murder, but would have them all indicted for a misdemeanor.

The libel suit of Mr. Joyce, formerly agent for the Irish estates of the Marquis of Clanricarde, against the Marquis for $50,000 damages, has resulted in a verdict for plaintiff, who was awarded $12,500. Mr. Joyce resigned before the troubles with the Woodford tenants culminated in the imprisonment of Father Fahey and many of his parishioners for adopting the plan of campaign against the rents demanded.

The evidence Monday in the cases of Callan and Harkins, on trial in London as dynamiters, proved that drafts on New York were paid in London in favor of Melville amounting to £535. Notes were afterwards cashed signed by Cohen and Callan. Col. Majendie, Inspector of Explosives, declared that the dynamite found in Callan's lodgings was of American make

It is said that great pressure is being exercised to induce Mr. Gladstone to open another campaign, and that he refuses. He is immersed in literary work of various kinds, and will go to Naples in January.

In reply to an inquiry from Mr. Allen Thorndike Rice, on behalf of the *North American Review*, Mr. Gladstone has sent the following cable despatch: "I earnestly hope for an international copyright between the two countries, meaning simply for British works in America and American in Britain. As to substance: it should be copyright by royalty, not copyright by monopoly. As to method, I cannot believe it too difficult for practical men to adjust. As to objects, I not only think freedom will in this, as in other things, give the natural, which is the lowest legitimate price, but also regard the measure as a new and strong tie between the nations whose union I so heartily desire."

Mr. John Morley is seriously ill with an affection of the liver. All his political engagements have been cancelled. He is greatly prostrated, and has been growing weaker since Monday evening.

At the annual meeting of the Central Chamber of Agriculture in London December 7, many provincial delegates took part in an excited discussion over a motion favoring protection. The Right Hon. Henry Chapin, Conservative, member of Parliament for Lincolnshire, deprecated the placing of duties on cereals unless the agitation in favor of bimetallism and the abolition of bounties failed. The motion was carried by two to one.

The Berlin *Magdeburger Zeitung's* correspondent at San Remo says that, during the past few days, the physicians attending the Crown Prince have expressed hopes not only that his life will be preserved, but also that he will completely recover from his throat trouble. Prince William, at a shooting party at Spandau, given in honor of Prince Luitpold, said: "My father feels as well as he did in August last, while he was in Scotland, and he is firmly convinced in his own mind that he will return to Berlin perfectly restored to health." At a meeting of Freemasons in Berlin December 7, a letter was read from the Crown Prince saying: "With God's help I hope that at a not very remote period I shall again be able to reside in Berlin in the enjoyment of good health." Dr. Mackenzie contributes a long and minute history of the case to the London *Medical Journal*, at the conclusion of which he says: "Although the nature of the growth which has lately appeared has not been determined by microscopic examination, it presents every appearance of cancer."

The great scheme for a through Siberian railway from St. Petersburg to Vladivostock, the naval port on the Pacific, is making progress. Communication is already established with Ekaterinburg, and a line to Tiumen is in progress. That covers only about one-third of the distance, so that an enormous territory has still to be crossed.

The newly-elected Hawaiian Legislature has cut down the salaries of all State officials, and has materially reduced the King's salary

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TARIFF MADE EASY.

One of the best results to be expected from the President's message is the extent to which the discussion of it during the coming winter will educate the public mind on questions of trade and taxation. It will be read by hundreds of thousands who, it is safe to say, have never before read anything whatever about the tariff. The elementary form into which it is thrown, too, will lead hundreds of thousands for the first time in their lives to think of the tariff as a subject with which plain men, as well as statisticians and manufacturers, are competent to grapple. The President has made it a question of practical politics, and it is through the discussion of questions of practical politics that the American people familiarizes itself with the more recondite matters of government. It was in this way that it was brought so far to understand the laws of currency as to make it easy for the Treasury to get back to specie payments. It was in this way that the public mind was cleared about the "labor problem" only two years ago. It will be in this way that the burden of taxation created by the war will be finally got rid of now. Probably ten times as much will be done during the coming winter for popular enlightenment on this subject, through mere household and newspaper discussion, than could be effected in twenty years through books, essays, or lectures.

How much need there is for popular education in this field has been strikingly illustrated by Mr. Blaine's recent despatch. How much he knows on any subject it is always difficult to determine, because he is just as ready to affect ignorance as knowledge when it suits his purpose. But the chances are that he does know that all international trade is barter; that no nation goes into the foreign market cash in hand as a householder goes to the butcher's; that every nation which buys goods pays in goods, and that gold and silver are only used to settle small balances when the year's accounts are made up. This is not one of the abstruse laws of political economy which are evolved in lecture-rooms from prolonged trains of reasoning. It is one of the facts of daily life with which everybody engaged in foreign trade is perfectly familiar, and which are published every quarter in the Custom-house returns.

Nevertheless, Mr. Blaine had no hesitation in the despatch in assuming that the American public were ignorant of it, and could be readily persuaded that it was possible for foreigners to dispose of enormous quantities of their merchandise in this country without taking away any American merchandise in return. With his usual looseness of speech, he even went so far as to indicate the kind of goods the foreigner would pour in on us if our tariff were lowered in the manner President Cleveland suggests, without accepting either our manufactures or our agricultural produce in exchange. He probably did not know exactly what he was saying when he put the increase of woollen, cotton, and iron and steel goods we should thus receive at "tenfold" what any possible increase in exports would be, but he said it, nevertheless.

Not only did he assume, however, that his public would not know that international trade was barter, and always and everywhere consists of an exchange of commodities, but he assumed that none, at least of his *Tribune* readers, would ask the simple and almost child-like questions: "If the foreigner sends us this immense additional quantity of goods, and will not take either our manufactures or crops in exchange for them, how are we going to pay for them? He surely will not leave them with us for nothing. If he will not take goods, he must insist on getting money, and where is the money to come from?" The answer is, of course, that we have not got the money and could not get it anywhere, because we need all we have for our domestic transactions, for, in fact, our daily purchases and sales. So that if we paid it out in one year for European goods, we should have to fall back on irredeemable paper for home use, and the following year we should have no money to buy anything whatever from the foreigner. Of course, after having "cleaned us out," the foreigner would bring no more of his goods here, any more than a butcher would pursue with his meat a customer who never paid his bills.

But Mr. Blaine presumed that his suggestion would not be thought out. He presumed that it would be accepted in the old way as the answer of a protector of American industry to the nefarious ideas of "a free-trader," and therefore not be examined minutely. But this winter, thanks to Mr. Cleveland, this sort of talk will be examined minutely by plain people. The debate will no longer be confined to manufacturers and college professors. It will go on in every farm-house and workshop in the country, and it cannot go on without the rediscovery of the true nature of foreign trade by the American people. And when they realize thoroughly that it is barter, that the foreigner never brings $600,000,000 of goods here, as he did last year, without taking $600,000,000 worth away, one other fact will be brought home to them with wonderful force and freshness, namely, that under our present tariff every time the American exchanges $100 worth of his merchandise for $100 worth of the foreigner's merchandise, he has to pay $40 as a kind of toll, under the name of "duty," for the mere privilege of making the trade. The $40 are not added to the value of the foreign goods; they are simply taken out of the value of his own, so that every dollar's worth of the foreign goods costs him $1.40. Plain people will ask this winter, with an eagerness they have never displayed before, "What are these forty dollars for? What use is made of them?" They will be told that they are used in part to pay the expenses of the Government and in part to "protect American industry." They will then ask what becomes of the balance, and they will have to be told that it is used to make "a surplus"; that is, to pile up in the Treasury a large sum of money, which no one knows what to do with, but which politicians will be delighted to spend in some way if the taxpayers choose to let them.

THE SURPLUS PARTY.

We have received a letter from a well-known Free-trader of what we may call the root-and-branch school—that is, the school which would, if it could, totally abolish the tariff to-morrow. He stands in the matter of import duties very much where the Abolitionists stood in the matter of slavery, and the Prohibitionists stand in the matter of liquor. He is opposed to all modification or compromise, and looks for victory for his cause solely to a *reductio ad absurdum*. He believes that the high-tariff men, if allowed to have their way, will pursue the logic of their theory to its last limit, and end by demanding total prohibition of foreign trade, and perhaps by trying it, and that then the country will be so disgusted that it will sweep them and their system out of existence. He, therefore, objects to President Cleveland's proposals as likely to postpone this most desirable consummation.

We think he is mistaken, for various reasons. The Protectionists will never get as far as total prohibition, because the United States will always need revenue, and customs duties will always be the simplest and easiest mode of raising it. On this point, too, most moderate men will be apt to agree with the tariff fanatics, so that the tariff question will probably always remain a question of more or less, of this or that, and can hardly ever become—certainly not in our time—a question of yes or no. The difference between slavery and the tariff, as objects of party attack or defence, is that anybody who undertakes to make the tariff prohibitory will have to provide something to take its place as a means of paying the national expenses. The Abolitionist was burdened with no such consideration. To those who asked how the South was to do without slavery, he had the ready answer—do as the rest of the civilized world does.

If there was any real disposition on the part of our tariff fanatics to travel in the direction which our correspondent indicates, they would show it now, and begin to call vigorously either for an advance of duties, or a total prohibition of foreign trade. But instead of pursuing the even tenor of their protective way, they are actually trying to turn themselves into what we may call a Surplus Party—that is, a party which maintains, for the first time in the history of civilized man, that the raising of money by taxation for no definite object is a good thing. Surpluses have been raised before now, but always as what in private life is called provision for a rainy day—that is, as the sinews of war in case of sudden attack by a foreign enemy. This has been part of Prussian financial policy since the foundation of the monarchy. It was part of the policy of the old Bernese oligarchy until Napoleon laid hands on it. In fact, it was the policy which nearly all mediæval sovereigns tried to pursue, though mostly without success, in the

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days before national credit, and when the people were thought of by rulers simply as objects of taxation. They all tried to store up a little money, so that when the foe came upon them, as he was apt to do every year or two, he might not find them penniless. But their spendthrift habits were always so deeply rooted that a monarch with a treasure has always been a rare bird. Frederick the Great may be said to be the only one known in modern times, and his only close imitator was the Bernese aristocracy.

Our Protectionists have, however, struck out an entirely new idea. They are now advocating the yearly creation of a surplus, not to be stored up as treasure, but to be spent as fast as it is created; and they have not even taken the trouble to agree on what it should be spent before presenting their idea to the country. They do not want it for a large army; the largest navy they think of would not consume half of it for a single year, nor would the coast fortification which has occurred to Mr. Blaine as a good thing to spend money on. But neither he nor any of his followers seems to care one straw on what it is spent. They are quite ready to agree to any proposal, however extravagant, on this point. They will divide it again among the States, at the risk of seeing the States get into the way of letting the general Government collect all their revenue for them; or use it to fortify our coasts against imaginary enemies; or build a fleet which the country would never consent to maintain; or pay pensions on a scale that would raise our quasi-military expenditure to the level of that of France or Germany, and fill half the population with the expectation of getting at least partial support from the Government. In fact, about the disposition of the surplus they care little or nothing. The important thing with them is to have the taxes which produce it kept up.

Now this would be a distinctly new departure in American finance, as indeed in the finance of the civilized world. We have had surpluses before now, but they came on us as an accident, and were always received as a warning that taxes were too heavy, and needed to be reduced. The notion that a surplus is something to be sought after annually, and cherished as a sign of national health, is a new notion. It would even ten years ago have been treated as the notion of a crank and have been received with a smile. The readiness of the Republican party to adopt it, and to ask the industrious classes to submit to taxation for unknown purposes, shows with what rapidity any political organization travels into folly when it has begun to tax for anything but the payment of the ordinary and natural expenses of Government, as defined beforehand by bill or resolution. As soon as the Treasury is allowed to become in never so slight a degree a resort for people actually in distress, it becomes a resort for that still larger class which thinks it may be in distress some day, and finally for the mere jobbers and speculators, who like to know where they can lay hands on money whenever they "sight" a good thing.

EFFECT OF THE SHORT-HAUL CLAUSE.

The Report of the Inter-State Commerce Commission treats questions of public policy with greater freedom and breadth of view than was possible in their decisions on specific complaints. In their decisions they simply explain what the law is; in their report they also suggest what it ought to be. The Commissioners have already shown that they understand the difficulties of transportation law. They now show that they understand some still more perplexing difficulties of political economy.

In the first place, they have fully grasped the fact that the question of reasonable rates is not always, or perhaps generally, a question between railroad and shipper; it is quite as often a question between rival interests or localities. Many a time when the railroad is the nominal defendant in a case, the real defendant is some body of shippers or consumers for whose sake the existing practice has been adopted, and whom any enforced change will hurt far more severely than it does the railroad itself. Most of the people who voted for the short-haul clause had the idea that local shippers would gain at the expense of the railroads. As a matter of fact, the gain at the local points has been at the expense of competitive ones. In the majority of instances this result has probably been good. It did away with an inequality which was in large measure artificial. But it was not a gain to the shippers, as such, from the railroads, as such. It was, primarily and chiefly, a gain to some classes of shippers at the expense of others—a gain on the part of the country and a few of the largest cities at the expense of the trade centres of moderate size.

To the railroads it was often a matter of comparative indifference. Their readiness to comply with the law varied greatly in different localities. The Commissioners report that the short-haul clause is generally obeyed in the Eastern and Central States, but not by the Southern or transcontinental roads. This difference is partly due to the competition in the South and West of water routes or other carriers not controlled by the statute; but it is still more largely due to the comparative poverty of local traffic in those regions. "It is quite clear," say the Commission, "that the more powerful corporations of the country, controlling the largest traffic, can conform to the statutory rule with much more ease and much less apparent danger of loss of income than can the weaker lines, whose business is comparatively light and perhaps admits of no dividends, and the pressure of whose fixed charges imposes a constant struggle to avoid bankruptcy."

But a serious loss of income to the weaker railroads means a serious loss of facilities to the community which they serve. The old roads cannot raise capital for the necessary extensions. New roads which have been projected cannot be built. If a branch, when left without regulation, can just be made profitable, no one will think of building it when fettered by stringent laws. It was this which produced the failure of the Granger legislation in its more extreme forms. The loss from reduction of facilities was greater than the gain from reduction in rates. One of the most important functions of an intelligent commission is so to interpret and administer the law as to prevent the reaction from reaching this point. As long as the country gains at the expense of the distributing centres, the general effect is probably good, though here and there the evil may predominate. But when it results in a loss of railroad facilities, so that the gain of any shippers is at the expense of general development, the evil, as a rule, outweighs the good.

But how then, it may be asked, shall we account for the state of things in certain countries of Europe, where a system of something like equal mileage rates is enforced by law? So far from offering any difficulty, these countries afford the strongest confirmation of what we have said. It is true that in spite of the strict legal regulation, railroad profits in Germany are as large as in America; but railroad facilities are not. It is not merely that America has nearly five times as many miles of railroad in proportion to its inhabitants. This is natural, because America is a sparsely populated country. The striking fact is that America has three times as much train service per inhabitant as Germany, and this is something in which the denser population should have the advantage. For every 1,000 inhabitants the United States runs trains 9,700 miles annually, or, leaving out the Southern and Pacific States, over 11,000 miles; but Great Britain has a train mileage per 1,000 inhabitants of only 7,500, Belgium of 4,500, France of 3,550, and Germany of only 3,250. The meaning of these figures is, that if a country allows its inhabitants to pay for railroads in any way they can, they will have plenty of railroad service; but if they are only willing to let them pay under certain schedules, they must content themselves with less. America has more local discrimination than England, England more than Belgium, Belgium more than France or Germany. There is no corresponding difference traceable in the average charges, which are low in America and Belgium, and high in England and France. But there is a difference, directly corresponding to the amount of discrimination, in the amount of railroad facilities per head of population.

This is the final result of railroad regulation when carried out on too strict a system. It does not necessarily mean reduction in railroad charges or in the profits of such railroads as are built; but it does mean reduction in railroad facilities for the community. It is for the community to determine how far they will go in this direction. The short-haul clause, as interpreted by the Commission, goes to so short a length that the good outweighs the evil; as Mr. Reagan would have had us enforce it, the evil would have been far in excess of the good. But, in any event, the chief loss does not fall upon rich railroad corporations. It falls primarily upon minor distributing centres; in the second place, upon weaker railroads; and, finally, adjusts itself by a reduction of railroad facilities in the community as a whole.

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IRRIGATION IN THE SOUTHWEST.

ENTERPRISES are on foot professedly for the irrigation of large hitherto arid tracts of New Mexico by huge canals, the headwaters of which are to be along the upper course of the Rio Grande. The Rio Grande can be tapped at almost any point (deep cañons excepted, and these are not many and not very long); and below the cañon beginning at San Ildefonso, and above the Jornada del Muerto, ditches may be run parallel to the river course at some distance from it for very considerable stretches. The advantage of such ditches for districts which until now have had to rely upon annual precipitation exclusively, is self-evident. There is, for instance, the level extending between the Sierra de Sandia on the east and the Rio Grande on the west, and from opposite Bernalillo to Bélen, which might be irrigated in this manner very profitably, at least along the line of the proposed canals. How far to the right (looking south) of that line the stream could be disseminated, is another question. But it is certain that the soil of that plateau or low "mesa" is fertile, or becomes fertile, as soon as it can be systematically watered. The same conditions obtain almost everywhere in New Mexico. Water is the great desidera tum. Even the notorious Jornada turns green when it rains, those portions of it excepted that are but heaps of gypsum or alkaline crusts bespattered with lava. The project seems, therefore, a good one, with promise of success; and if the necessary capital is secured, there should be no impediment to its speedy realization.

On the other hand, the volume of water carried by the Rio Grande is not large, it is even exceedingly small for a river of such length and whose fall per mile is so rapid for a certain portion of the (upper) course. After the stream leaves the San Luis Valley, that fall suddenly diminishes; between Peña Blanca and El Paso, a distance of over 300 miles, it is not over five feet per mile. This alone would have slight weight, but the nature of the soil on the river banks, and for some distance beyond, is extremely sandy; it swallows, so to say, the greatest portion of the current. South of the Rio Chama, not a single affluent of the Rio Grande reaches with its waters the main artery, except during heavy storms, when the little Santa Fé, the arroyo of Galisteo, the Jemez, the Rio Puerco, suddenly disgorge floods of turbid waters from an outlet which is usually dry, although, indeed, the "official" mouth, or confluence. The truth is, they all "sink" before reaching the main river. Nearly all the watercourses of the Southwest have this peculiarity, and the Rio Grande itself is sometimes no exception; some years ago it went perfectly dry for a short time at the Sabinal, and at La Joya, fifty miles below Albuquerque.

Under such circumstances the supply of water is small even for the people living along its banks. The query therefore arises: If a certain amount is taken out in order to feed a side channel of magnitude, will there be enough left for the "heirs, executors, and assigns" of those who have used the water for centuries, for the lawful owners of the soil and of the water-privileges pertaining thereto? Or will the effect of such a canal not be simply to turn the river into a new bed, producing tillable land in one place and laying waste what until now has been cultivable? In the present condition of the Rio Grande this result may be expected. True, land in the Rio Grande bottom is difficult to purchase; it is largely held by Mexican families who are not eager to sell their homes; and this, with the unsettled condition of land titles, is a drawback to impatient settlers and speculators. The channel proposed would help to remove such impediments, since it would lay waste such unpurchasable tracts, ruin their owners, and *create a new Rio Grande bottom for a fresh* stock of occupants. We do not wish to be understood as intimating that a scheme of that kind will ever be contemplated. All that we desire to show is how a canalization on such a large scale might possibly work in the Rio Grande Valley. There is danger of losing on one side what may be gained on the other.

The people who would be threatened with utter ruin by it are not defenceless, however. They have occupied the sites and used its water-supply all their lives; they have old titles—which the treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo sustains—to the soil and all the "appurtenances thereto," including the water. They certainly will oppose anything endangering these rights by all legal means, and their position must, in the end, be upheld by the highest courts. Litigation is sure to result from any attempt to turn off the current on a large scale. It will be the same if the attempt should be made in southern Colorado, for if the river is drained there, there is not enough water left south of it to irrigate. Only by saving the outside drainage through means of numerous large reservoirs established on the lower mountain slopes in New Mexico, so as to intercept that drainage before it can be absorbed by the sandy banks of the arroyos, can the water-supply of the Territory be augmented. That drainage is now almost completely lost to the country between the Rio Grande and the mountains. It reaches it only at certain seasons, and then for short hours only. If it were collected all the year round, and stored, it would suffice for the irrigation of the areas between the river and the high ranges, and produce a result which the projected canals will never achieve.

WORKMEN'S PENSIONS IN GERMANY.

IN the account of the German legislation for compulsory insurance which was published in the October number of the *Quarterly Journal of Economics*, it was said that a bill providing for pensions to workmen in case of old age or disability was in preparation. Provision is made by the acts hitherto passed only for the contingencies of sickness and accident; but it has been intended from the outset to provide also for old age and incapacity to work. The bill prepared by the Government for this latter purpose has now been printed. No doubt changes and amendments will be made before it finally becomes law, but probably the main features will be retained, and the last steps thereby be taken in this most curious and significant scheme of social reform.

The bill provides that all workmen who pass the age of seventy, or become permanently and completely incapacitated for work, shall have a pension. Like the previous acts, it affects only workmen, apprentices, servants, and administrative employees having a yearly pay of not more than 2,000 marks ($500). The pension to these is to be due, however, only if contributions, or, in ordinary insurance language, premiums, have been paid on their behalf during a certain length of time, which is to be thirty years in case of the pension for old age, and five years in case of that for disability. We say contributions must be paid on their behalf, for here, as in the case of the other insurance acts, contributions are paid only in part by the workmen themselves. Not more than one-third is paid by them; another third is paid by the employers, and the last third comes from the Imperial Treasury—that is, from taxation of the community at large. The pension in case of old age is 120 marks ($30) per year; that for disability varies from a minimum of 120 marks to a maximum of 250 marks ($62.50), according to the length of time for which contributions have been paid. The sums seem pitiful enough; possibly they have been made small intentionally, in order not to take away all incentive to independent saving or all occasion for calling on children or other relatives for help. The contributions per workman are fixed for the present at 6 pfennigs per day, or 36 marks ($9) per fiscal year. The employers have to advance two-thirds of this, or 4 pfennigs per day, but may deduct 2 pfennigs per day from the stipulated wages of the workmen, so that their net charge is 2 pfennigs per day. The rest of the contributions, as was noted above, is paid by the Empire. For women the payments are two-thirds of those for men, and the pensions correspondingly less. These contributions, or premiums, are, it should be said, merely provisional. Within ten years after the act goes into effect, a new and permanent scale is to be prepared, based on the experience of the workings of the act and of the sums it calls for.

The managers of the pension system are the *Berufsgenossenschaften*, or associations of employers, which were organized in order to carry out the system of compulsory insurance against accident. This utilizes the existing machinery, and effects an obvious saving of expense. The *Berufsgenossenschaften* are to establish separate accounts for the new system, and the funds are to be kept distinct from those collected for insurance against accident.

It does not appear when the act (supposing this bill to become law) is to go into effect. As was noted above, the bill prescribes payment of contributions during thirty years, before a pension for old age shall be due, and during five years in case of the pension for disability. This seems to in-

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volve a preparatory stage of many years before the benefits actually accrue to the workman. It is likely, however, that some provisional arrangement will be made for bridging over the time before the scheme gets into complete working order, else the immediate object to be attained, the check to discontent and socialistic agitation, will fail for the time being. The remarkable skill, energy, and patience with which all these statutes have been carried through make it certain that the German legislators will not permit a long period to pass before the last measure of the series actually goes into effect. When this is done, the scheme for improving by compulsory insurance the lot of the poor will have reached its final shape, and will be fairly and completely in operation. What its ultimate result will be, however, cannot be judged with certainty until it has been tried on a generation or two of workmen; and only our children and children's children are likely to know—if, indeed, they know—whether the lot of the mass of civilized mankind can be alleviated permanently by these methods.

THE GERMAN SABBATH.

As everybody knows, Sunday is not kept as a day of rest on the Continent of Europe in the same sense in which it is kept in England or America. That is to say, even those Continental Protestants who think abstinence from toil, properly so called, on the first day of the week a religious duty, differ greatly from English and American Protestants as to the way in which those who abstain from labor should pass the day. The view of the more rigid English and American Protestants is, that not only are we bound not to follow our ordinary pursuits on Sunday, but we are bound not to amuse ourselves, and to confine our reading to religious or devotional books or newspapers. To this length the Continental Protestants—even that very rigid sect of them, the French and Dutch Calvinists—have never gone. They have always allowed "innocent amusements" on Sunday, meaning by that term, if we are not mistaken, all amusements which did not involve violent physical exertion or some form of gambling. The late Count Gasparin, for instance, was very much shocked by President Lincoln's going to the theatre, but it was to him no aggravation of the sin of going to the theatre to go on Sunday. We remember, too, being told by an eminent American divine of the shock it gave him when he first went to Germany as a young man, and delivered his letter of introduction to a prominent German Lutheran theologian, to receive a note from him appointing a meeting on Sunday afternoon in a beer-garden. The meeting took place, and they had a very interesting talk, with the accompaniments of beer and tobacco, without the slightest suspicion on the German's side that his young American friend saw anything unseemly in their surroundings. That the Anglo-Saxon Protestants should, under these circumstances—that is, with so little support from their brethren on the Continent, and with open opposition from the whole Catholic world—have been able to maintain the Puritan Sabbath, even as well as they have done, down to our day, shows the wonderful vigor and tenacity of their character and beliefs.

On one point they have undoubtedly been beaten by the course of events. Their prediction that popular morality would suffer greatly from the decline of Sabbath observance—that is, that as men became less ready to abstain on Sunday from all "worldly amusements," and to devote the day wholly or in great part to religious exercises, their respect for the elementary social virtues would diminish, and that Sabbath-breakers would on the whole be readier to cheat, and lie, and drink, and swear than Sabbath-observers—has not been justified by experience. There is little doubt, in fact, that the spread of the habit of devoting at least part of Sunday to simple recreation, in or out of doors, has done much to sweeten people's tempers and elevate their tastes. In the old days, when the Sabbath-breaker was obliged to conceal his frailty or revolt, he was apt, as in Scotland, where Sunday used to be, and perhaps is, a great day for private drinking among the ungodly, to pass the day in a state of mind which stimulated or fostered all his baser inclinations. From his present freedom to enjoy himself publicly in his own fashion without incurring serious social discredit, he derives at least cheerfulness, and a sort of kindly respect for those who keep the Sabbath without outward signs of condemnation for those who do not take the same view as themselves of its nature and obligations.

But on one other point the friends of Sabbath observance have undoubtedly found themselves somewhat justified by experience. They have always maintained that if Sunday were not kept as a sacred day, its retention as a day of rest from toil would prove very difficult. In this they are apparently right. In all the Continental countries, along with readiness to be amused on Sunday comes also readiness to work. It seems difficult, if not impossible, to enforce a rule which allows people to play lawn tennis, or go to the theatre, or sit in beer gardens, but forbids them to work in factories or keep their shops open. The experience of Germany, which has recently been collected, though in a somewhat imperfect way, by a Prussian Government investigation, seems to contain a great deal of instruction on this point. From returns obtained from thirty out of thirty-five provinces or departments, containing 500,156 manufacturing establishments and 1,582,591 workmen, it was found that 57.75 per cent. of the factories kept at work on Sunday. On the other hand, the larger number of the workmen, or 919,564, rested on Sunday. As regards trade and transportation, it was found that in 29 provinces (out of 35), of 147,318 establishments of one sort or another, employing 245,061 persons, 77 per cent. were open on Sunday, and 57 per cent. of the employees worked on that day.

This state of things has led to a demand in Prussia for legislation absolutely prohibiting Sunday labor. With a view to such legislation, a canvass of the persons interested, both employers and employed, has been made. They were asked whether they were in favor of or opposed to total prohibition. It was found that of those consulted in the great factories or stores only 13 per cent. of the employers and 18 per cent. of the employed were in favor of total prohibition. In the smaller industries only 18 per cent. of the employers and 21 per cent. of the employed were in favor of total prohibition. In trade only 41 per cent. of the employers and 39 per cent. of the employed, and in transportation only 12 per cent. of the employers and 16 per cent. of the employed were in favor of total prohibition. These are very curious figures, and have been tabulated by M. Maurice Block with some care. It is difficult to say how many things they prove, but they prove one thing with tolerable certainty, and that is that the footing of Sunday as a day of rest is almost as precarious in Germany as its footing as a day of religious observance.

THE REVISED CONSTITUTION OF THE NETHERLANDS.

BERLIN, November 24, 1887.

AFTER a contest extending over four years, the revised Constitution of the Netherlands has been adopted by both chambers, and has received the royal signature. Its formal proclamation will take place December 1, and the special election of a new Parliament to confirm it will take place four months later. The reasons which led to this revision were the necessity of regulating the descent of the crown in case of the death of the young Princess Wilhelmine, the redistribution of electoral districts, owing to a change of population, the extension of the suffrage, additional powers necessary to deal with socialistic agitation, and the question of compulsory military service and of national defence. The Constitution has not simply received additional articles, but has been subjected throughout to a careful restatement; and while the substance is essentially the same, slight changes, omissions, and additions have extended to 125 of the 197 articles. Some of the articles are far-reaching in their consequences, and the passage of chapter viii., relating to the national defence, was uncertain until the final vote in the Upper House.

The original Constitution of the Netherlands was adopted in 1815, and the present Constitution after the reform agitation of 1848. The new Constitution, although adopted by more than a two-thirds vote in both houses, must now be subjected to the popular judgment, and ratified by a similar majority in a new Parliament elected expressly for this purpose. There is a striking analogy in the steps by which changes are made in the Constitution of the Netherlands, and the provisions by which amendments are made to the Constitution of the United States, and of some of the separate States. As the First Chamber is chosen directly by the estates of the different provinces, and the Second Chamber by direct popular vote, the voice of the separate governments, as well as the voice of the people, is taken in the ratification of the Constitution. On the adoption of amendments to many of our State constitutions, the people vote directly upon the merits of the proposed amendment, and not, as in the Netherlands, by representatives chosen for that purpose.

The present Heemskerk Ministry came into power as a Conservative Ministry in 1883. The former Ministry of Van Lynden was defeated on a motion to extend the suffrage. Heemskerk

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saw that in order to retain power his party must adopt many of the reforms demanded. He immediately proposed the appointment of a committee which should not only consider the question of the suffrage, but should suggest other changes in the Constitution. The Committee consisted of the Minister, Heemskerk, and seven Conservatives and seven Liberals. The first question which demanded solution was that of the succession to the throne. Many of the provisions were vague and difficult of interpretation. The death of the Crown Prince William in Paris, followed by that of his brother Alexander, transferred the succession to the young Princess Wilhelmine. The House of Orange-Nassau was thus left without a male descendant, the son of an heir to the throne. The King's nearest relative and, next to the Princess Wilhelmine, the legal heir to the throne, is the Grand Duchess Sophie of Saxe-Weimar. Here a difficult question arose. According to the Constitution of the Netherlands, every heir to the throne who marries without the consent of the States-General forfeits his claim to the crown. The Grand Duchess Sophie received the consent of the States-General upon her marriage, but her son, the Hereditary Prince of Saxe-Weimar, who had then no prospect of ascending the throne of the Netherlands, married without the concurrence of the States-General. In case of the death of his mother before the Princess Wilhelmine, the crown would be left without a legal heir, or a dangerous conflict might arise and lead to foreign intervention.

The literature to which the controversy regarding the succession has given rise is very extensive. Leading scholars have argued the question from the standpoint of Roman law, of Salic law, of the laws of contemporary descent in other European States, and from patriotic considerations. The Dutch statesmen have always been shrewd to forecast political contingencies which might interfere with their national independence. In case the crown should not devolve upon the descendants of the Grand Duchess of Saxe-Weimar as the sole remaining heir of William II., the succession must be sought in the descendants of other children of William I., viz., in the children of Prince Frederick or of Princess Marianne, who married Prince Albrecht of Prussia, brother of the Emperor Wilhelm. The present representatives of Prince Frederick are the descendants of his daughters, one of whom married Karl XV., King of Sweden, whose only daughter married the present Crown Prince of Denmark, and the other the Prince of Wied. The Prussian heir to the throne would be Prince Albrecht, the present Regent of Hanover, as belonging to the oldest female line. The same provision of the Constitution which would prevent the succession of the children of the Grand Duchess of Saxe-Weimar would exclude these other heirs.

The Constitution provides that in case of a failure of male descendants of the House of Orange-Nassau, born of male heirs to the throne, the crown passes to the female line nearest related to the last King; but it cannot pass to a younger line so long as there are descendants of the older branch or line. The King can wear no foreign crown. By the new Constitution it is provided that in case the crown passes to a side line, the provision of the Constitution requiring the consent of the States-General to the marriage of an heir to the throne shall apply only to marriages contracted after that event. This secures the succession to the Saxe-Weimar line in case of the death of the Princess Wilhelmine, or in case she leaves no descendants. The next in order of succession is Prince Albrecht of Prussia, and after him the children of the Princess of Wied.

The number of members of the First Chamber is fixed at fifty instead of thirty-nine by the new Constitution. The increase of representation is greatest in North and South Holland, where the great commercial cities of Amsterdam and Rotterdam are situated. In place of six and seven members respectively, the number is now nine and ten for these two provinces, increasing their relative importance from 33 to 38 per cent. of the whole Chamber. These States have always exercised a leading influence in Netherland affairs. Of the remaining nine provinces the representation of North Brabant, Gelderland, Friesland, Groningen, and Drenthe is increased by one member each. The members of the First Chamber are chosen, as formerly, for nine years by the different provincial assemblies; the election of members is no longer confined to those who are most highly assessed, but those who have held certain high public positions are eligible as candidates. A third of the Chamber is elected every three years.

The number of members of the Second Chamber is raised from 86 to 100. One member was formerly elected to every 45,000 inhabitants; the number of members is now limited to 100, and distributed according to the number of inhabitants. Members of the Second Chamber must be thirty years old, and are chosen for four years. Their salary is 2,000 florins, with travelling expenses. One-half of the Chamber no longer retires at the end of two years.

The reform of the suffrage has excited more popular interest than any other question associated with the revision of the Constitution. The programme of the Radicals is universal suffrage, compulsory school attendance, personal military service, the abolition of State support of religion, and a law controlling manufactories and for the protection of workmen. Such sweeping changes are contrary to the traditions of the Government, in which the aristocratic and conservative element has held sway for so many hundred years. In the new Constitution the provision imposing a property qualification upon voters is omitted. Heretofore no one possessed the right to vote for members of the Second Chamber unless he paid a direct tax of from 20 to 160 florins, according to the law of the district where he resided. By a provisional electoral law embodying in part the features of the new Constitution, the number of voters is raised from 136,000 to 350,000. This is far from universal suffrage in a country with a population of 4,336,012, and with 800,000 men of legal age to vote. By removing the restriction upon the right of suffrage from the Constitution, it rests with the States-General at any time to extend still further the right to vote. The age of electors, however, remains fixed by the Constitution at twenty-three years.

The question of national defence in the presence of the vast armaments of Europe, and of the extensive fortresses which Belgium has begun on the Dutch border, has occasioned earnest discussion. Corresponding military preparations mean an increase of debt and accompanying taxation and compulsory military service. The present Constitution provides that the King shall see that a sufficient land and naval force is kept in readiness; also, that a volunteer militia shall be maintained. In case of the lack of sufficient volunteers, a draft may be made from all those who have reached twenty years of age. The new Constitution provides that a land and marine force shall be maintained of volunteers and of those *liable to military service*, which shall be regulated by law. The old provision that those liable to service cannot be sent to the foreign colonies of the Netherlands is retained. The provisions respecting a national volunteer militia are omitted in the new Constitution, although a kind of Landwehr for defence will be maintained by the communes or districts. The Minister of War announced, on the passage of this section, that arrangements had already been made in his bureau to carry out these provisions.

Article 187 of the new Constitution provides that the King can declare any district in a state of siege, during which the administration of public order may be intrusted in whole or in part to the military authorities. Power is thus conferred on the Government to deal with any socialistic outbreak.

Among the features of the Constitution which are noticeable, either from their correspondence to the usages of our own country or as presenting distinct features, are the following: Courts are declared open, but the right to hold a non-public session in the interests of order and morality is conceded to the Judge. All decisions and the reasons for them, however, must be publicly pronounced. All breaches of trust or official misconduct on the part of ministers, royal deputies, governors, members of the States-General, and other high officials are brought directly before the Supreme Court (Hooge Raad), either upon the initiative of the King or of the Second Chamber, *during, as well as after, their resignation of office.* Ministerial responsibility is provided for, and the presence of the Ministers in the Chambers can be required. While public sessions of both Chambers are held, one-tenth of the members can require a secret session. The article which made the King and members of the royal family amenable to the Supreme Court is omitted. The Supreme Court has an oversight of the administration of justice, but there is no appeal to it in the case of offences tried by military law, or in questions of military discipline. The security and equality of all before the law, whether native or foreigners, is one of the first articles of the Constitution. Only in times of great national excitement, when the Government is passive in the presence of popular feeling, could such persecution exist as is manifested in the present *Deutschhetze* in France.

The recent rumors of the illness of the King of the Netherlands have revived popular discussion of the future sovereignty of the Grand Duchy of Luxemburg. The relation of the King to Luxemburg is a purely personal one. Luxemburg was granted to William I. by the Treaty of 1815, as an indemnity for the loss of his Nassau lands, which he had been forced to resign. By a family treaty of 1783, between the two branches of the House of Nassau, the Otto and the Walram lines, it was provided that in the succession to the throne of Luxemburg the agnatic rights of the Duke of Nassau should be respected. This was recognized later in the London Conference of 1839, which was called to settle the relations between Belgium and the Netherlands. By this treaty the King of the Netherlands was forced to cede a portion of Luxemburg to Belgium. He was obliged also to secure the renunciation by the Duke of Nassau for himself and his successors of any claim which they might subsequently urge upon this territory. This was granted by the Duke with the express stipulation that any rights which he might subsequently possess on the rest of Luxemburg should remain unimpaired.

The question has been recently raised whether Prussia, as the heir of the sovereign rights of Duke Adolf in Nassau, would not, in virtue of this succession, possess a valid title to the throne

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of Nassau. But the succession to Luxemburg is not derived from the possession of Nassau, but is based upon the rights of the Duke of Nassau as nearest agnate of the House of Orange-Nassau, which were not affected by the Treaty of 1867 between Prussia and the Duke of Nassau. In 1885 a Dutch Minister, having proposed to take measures to perpetuate the relation of the crown of the Netherlands to Luxemburg, was informed by the King that the latter had signed the Treaty of 1867 between Prussia and Nassau, and that he wished the Family Treaty of 1783 to be observed. This settles the question of the right of Duke Adolf of Nassau to the throne of Luxemburg upon the death of the King of Holland. Prussia will thus practically acquire possession of Luxemburg in its possession by a German prince. In case the crown of the Netherlands should pass to the House of Saxe-Weimar, a German prince would become ruler of this country. What remote consequences might be connected with either one of these transfers, cannot now be determined.

W. T. H.

"ŒDIPUS" AT CAMBRIDGE.

LONDON, November 28, 1887.

A NOT unimportant topic of the day in London is what the *Times* of Wednesday noticed at great length under the caption of "Œdipus at Cambridge." Of the other newspapers, however, not a few failed to send reporters, and made no extended mention of the performances, which began on Tuesday last and continued through the week. This comparative indifference in some quarters shows that the academical representation of a Greek tragedy has ceased to be a nine days' wonder. These performances have found their proper and permanent place, and they have a public of their own. The treacherous preëminence of a fashionable "fad" they have lost, and it is to be hoped they never may regain it.

Upwards of six years ago this same play was given at our own Cambridge, and it is therefore not necessary to dwell upon the afflictions of *King Œdipus* which are its theme. Mr. Stanford's musical interpretation, the power of which effectually swayed all moods on Tuesday last, treated too hopefully the mystery and gloom of heaven-sent pestilence which overhangs the outset of the play. Had the stage of the Théatre Royal in Cambridge offered room for the solemn entrance of Theban suppliants in mournful progress towards the altars of the gods, then the composer's beginning would no doubt have given fuller expression to the universal woe of Thebes. In this respect Mr. Paine, at Cambridge, in America, was more fortunate than Mr. Stanford has been. Mr. Stanford's overture is brightened by a leading *motif*, which recurs ever and anon during the course of the play, and, unfinished and uncertain at the first, becomes each time more certain and more sad. This pathetic progression begins with notes that echo from the shepherds on the far-off hills, from the uplands of Cethæron, where *Œdipus* once lay so near to death. They recall the Alpine sweets and freshness that breathe from Rossini's overture to "William Tell." This melody escapes pursuit at first only by its elusive recurrence to tempt the hearer on and on till he sits surprised to hear its burden all of woe. Surprised, indeed, but never for a moment overwhelmed. As before suggested, Mr. Stanford's music offers alleviation rather than interpretation to the horror of the woes of *Œdipus* and all his house. The very effectiveness with which this is done interferes somewhat with the intensity of the climax. Mr. Stanford does not help the heavens to fall when *Œdipus* discovers and despairs.

Mr. Stanford's choral masterpiece is the song of the chorus which brings to fullest expression the anti-climax in the plot. Just before the whole mass of accumulated misfortune heaps itself upon *King Œdipus* and ends all hope, there is a moment made for joy—a breathing-space before the tragic end draws near. Here the movement of Mr. Stanford's choral song is *allegro vivace*, and the evolutions of the chorus while singing indicate gladness—perhaps even greater gladness than was here provided for them by Sophocles in the play. In Mr. Paine's "Œdipus" music, on the other hand, the most breathless and thrilling moment was—as is well remembered by those who heard it—the choral song that came immediately after the complete discovery of his woes by *Œdipus*. The relentless forward onset of unfearing and unfavoring fate was borne in upon all hearers by the power of Mr. Paine's interpretation of "Woe is me for you, sons of men!" Mr. Stanford's music was hardly adequate here. Nevertheless, he has earned the lasting gratitude of all scholars for the wonderful care with which he follows in detail the movement of the Greek choral rhythms. It is like borrowing a new sense for the appreciation of poetic form to hear Mr. Stanford's music with close reference to the Greek. Here, and here only, is the right way to teach the more complicated Greek metres. Indeed, no one without fondness for music and some knowledge of it is qualified himself to enjoy, or to help others to understand or enjoy, the choral odes of Greek tragedy. This must be plain to any one who, after hearing Mr. Clark's music for the "Acharnians," an American performance not to be forgotten, takes pains to appreciate Mr. Stanford's most scholarly work.

That the latter has studied his Wagner, and to great advantage, abundantly appears, not in the overture only, but also in the "incidental" music. Perhaps the most marked and magical effect thus obtained was in the trochaic dialogue between *Creon* and *Œdipus*, just at the close. These Mr. Stanford accompanied with short snatches following in the train of each speaker's thought. Thus he aided marvellously the consolatory effect which the playwright intended. Another point where Mr. Stanford excelled was in the dramatic cries of rhythmical horror with which the chorus turned away from *Œdipus* as he entered with blinded and bleeding eyes. Furthermore, his music bridged the difficulties resulting from the adoption of a modern subdivision of the play. This subdivision made the rising and falling of a curtain necessary, and involved repeated entrances and exits of the chorus. All these, with help from the music, were most smoothly and admirably managed. In Sanders Theatre, at our American Cambridge, it would have been impossible—without the greatest difficulty—to have subdivided the play in this fashion. It is therefore well that no attempt was there made to do this or to use a curtain. One further point of essential difference between the American representation and the English one connects itself, as do many others, with the near approach of the ground plan of Sanders Theatre to what we suppose to have been that of the theatre of the Greeks. The chorus was enabled to stand wholly aloof from the actors on the stage. On the other hand, on Tuesday last the many entrances and exits of the chorus had to be made, for lack of independent means of approach, just where the principal actors came and went. Thus the chorus was absorbed, so to speak, into the action of the play. They could not with any plausibility hold aloof from the proceedings on the stage, and intervene only in a formal way by the utterances of their leader. Hence the chorus at the Theatre Royal recalled very often the conventional chorus of modern opera. To give one instance out of many: when *Œdipus*, not dreaming yet that *Laius* was his father, first fears that he may himself be the murderer, the leader of the chorus ends his comforting lines with the words, "Have hope." Last Tuesday the chorus in a body echoed these words, "Have hope." This was certainly effective, as were often the sympathetic gestures by which the chorus expressed their concern in the progress of the action. Their countermarchings, too, which accompanied the choral songs, were often very finely conceived, and always smoothly executed, but this, once and again, savored of the cut-and-dried machine emotion of the chorus in Italian opera.

As far as quality of voice and distinctness of musical enunciation go, the fifteen members of the chorus left little or nothing to be desired. Mr. Ottley of Trinity, their leader, had an exceptionally agreeable voice in the declamation which fell to his share. At the same time it was a blemish to one's enjoyment of the play that the chorus had always to stand half on the right and half on the left side of the front stage, and the leader's position, with the left half always, interfered sometimes with the best effect of his intervention in the dialogue.

As for the acting of the play in detail, *Œdipus* must be mentioned first because of the almost superhuman length and the quite superhuman difficulty of the part. Mr. Randolph of Trinity bravely undertook this arduous rôle, and he deserves many compliments. The first of them is not all his, for it belongs in part to his clothes. He looked as he entered "every inch a king." His acting, however, was not kingly through all the first part of the play, even up to the moment of *Jocasta's* first entrance. Neither did he bring out the darkest side of *Œdipus's* character. Sophocles endowed this King with a certain elemental truculence which does not forsake his *Œdipus* even at Colonus, when he is blinded and exiled in old age. This quality Mr. Randolph did not adequately bring out, either in the utterance of that fearful imprecation upon the unknown slayer of *Laius*, or in the violent altercation with *Tiresias*, or even in *Œdipus's* one-sided quarrel with *Creon*. But Mr. Randolph's acting certainly was admirable in its indication of the unconsciousness with which *Œdipus* first speaks of the murder of *Laius*, and in the scene in which he recounts to *Jocasta* his actual commission of that crime. Here Mr. Randolph's acting resembled nothing in the American play, and here it was truly excellent. At the climax, where *King Œdipus* discrowns himself and breaks utterly beneath the weight of heaped-up misery, Mr. Randolph's manner and his voice fell far short of the tragic power which Mr. Riddle showed at this, one of the most thrilling points in the play.

If I had not seen Mr. Opdycke's *Jocasta* at Sanders Theatre, I should maintain that no amateur performance of the part could give as much satisfaction as that of Mr. Platts of Trinity gave last Tuesday. As it is, I will only record my delight in having seen the part twice acted, and each time so admirably. The two conceptions of the rôle were so different that there is no sufficient basis for comparison. Mr. Platts had perhaps the more adequate appreciation of *Jocasta's* religious awe and fervor at the point where she enters to make propitiatory offerings. Mr. Opdycke certainly was more dramatic at the desperate moment of *Jocasta's* final exit.

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In the part of the messenger from Corinth Sophocles gives the same relief from the tragic tension of his plot that is afforded by the guard in the "Antigone." Mr. James of Kings certainly achieved a triumph here. Like Mr. Platts—who took the part of *Clytemnestra's* ghost in the "Eumenides"—Mr. James "has trod ere now the buskined Cambridge stage." There is something in his way of using the English pronunciation of Greek that conciliates the restiveness of ears that rebel against it as most use it. *Creon's* part was played with much ease and grace, but with rather too much kindliness at the end, by Mr. Miller of Gonville and Caius. Mr. Head of Trinity was hindered now and again by his lines in the part of *Tiresias*, and Mr. Ford of Kings did not quite adequately depict the baneful harms of pestilence at Thebes. Mr. Smith of Trinity, as the messenger from the Palace, gave his lines with spirit and effectively. There was, to be sure, a very pardonable lack of perfect ease during and after his long speech.

As to the stage setting, Mr. O'Connor's façade was beautiful, and would have been more so if the size of the stage had allowed him greater height. It was perhaps a mistake to make room for oleanders and stone pines, since these certainly added to a perceptible crowding and cluttering of the scene. Perhaps, though, the façade would have seemed too near the front of the stage in their absence, and certainly it would have seemed higher but for the large-limbed youths who appeared as the evidently able-bodied guards of *Œdipus*. These mutes were one of the great delights of a most delightful representation—they might have stepped on to the stage from Athens in the palmy days of Pericles, when her young men were most comely and well trained.

In closing, I would say that the difference between the two representations of "King Œdipus"—apart from the music, of which I have already spoken—is the difference between painting and sculpture. The American play was sculpturesque, and the English play was picturesque. The Harvard performance, coming directly after the first of them all—the Oxford "Agamemnon"—attempted much that has been neglected by the Committee in Cambridge. This neglect is evidently the result of a long experience in giving play after play, and is abundantly compensated for by achievements in new lines. The best and the most hopeful feature in this last performance is, to my mind, that the Committee have dared to treat the play as their own. In the scenery and the succession of delightful pictures which the stage offered as the play progressed, the presence and the power of contemporary English art were felt. Petty archæological anxieties have apparently less hold upon the Committee from year to year, because, by a large-minded use of modern stage effects, enthusiasm and interest can best be maintained. Thus, it would seem, and hardly otherwise, can we be sure of the yearly performance in Greek of a Greek play.

L. D.

Correspondence.

THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: President Cleveland's message upon the opening of the Fiftieth Congress must be to all honest men a triumphant declaration of high principle and right-minded policy. It is, as it were, a battle-cry of freedom such as has not been heard since the days of slavery. It calls upon Congress to act, and no longer to falter, delay, and attempt to propitiate. It shows the danger of the country, and that the danger is real and present, and not theoretical. It shows, also, that over 14,700,000 workingmen are taxed and oppressed for the sake of an apparent benefit to about 2,600,000, and yet even with this enormous preponderance against any even apparent benefit accruing through protection, it advises generous legislation, so as not to injure this small minority. No sentiments more honest, more able, and at the same time more generous have ever emanated from any of our public representatives.

It must seem to all who read and think over this message that there can be but one opinion upon it, and that there should be a general and unanimous uprising throughout the whole country to sustain its Chief Magistrate, and demand immediate and proper legislation upon the vexed subject of the tariff in accordance with the views expressed in his message. Still, there are many blinded by prejudice, and more, perhaps, by interest, who can and will see no good from any one holding views opposed to protection; and it is now incumbent upon the people of the United States, and particularly upon those who had the honor of electing Mr. Cleveland, to show how small and how weak is that prejudiced and interested party which, by virtue of possession, has for many years been able to oppress the mass of the people of this country. No discussion should be feared or avoided, for though the protectionists may boast that they have the wealth of the country to support them, their opponents have the brains, and, what is much more important, the honesty of the country to oppose thereto. Can there be any doubt as to the result of such a contest?

J. H. L.

Philadelphia, December 7, 1887.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: If I had any lingering doubts about the wisdom of voting for Mr. Cleveland, they would have been wholly dispelled by this last message. There is a chorus of satisfaction among all the friends with whom I have talked upon the subject. Instead of generalities upon the condition of all creation, with a strong intimation of how much it has benefited by his holding office, the President throws everything else aside, goes straight at the one subject of deep and immediate importance to the nation, and does not disguise its seriousness. Instead of facing both ways in view of the near election, and striving chiefly not to alienate anybody, he strikes straight out, and does not shrink from any phase of the question. Without a particle of demagogism or currying of popular favor, he pleads the cause of the toiling millions in the face of the powerful interests which he well knows will turn against him. To say that his financial views are sound, and his reasoning impregnable, is only to express an opinion on an open question: but admiration of the courage displayed, and the temper which, at such a juncture as this, could regard courage as the highest policy, is a thing in which every one can share. Now we shall see whether the people of the United States, as I profoundly believe, value manliness above either protection or free trade; whether they prefer the man who, at the risk of making enemies, dares to say what he thinks, or the man who, while playing into the hands of the powerful interests aforesaid, thinks he can also score a point by caressing the chewers of tobacco.

But I do not write for the purpose of saying these things, which have already been proclaimed by the newspapers. What I do want to point out is how completely, for any present and practical purpose, the President's shot is fired in the air. Congress will pay no more attention to it than to an editorial in any newspaper, while its fate in the committees will be that of the children of Edward IV. in the Tower. There is a Scripture phrase, about a want of economy in the use of pearls, which forcibly suggests itself. If any financial legislation is carried through this winter, it will be the result not at all of the President's injunctions, but of a fierce wrangle of private interests in the committees and the lobby, of which the people know nothing. It will be based very slightly on the national interest, and very largely on the ideas of the party leaders as to what is best for the success, and therefore the spoils, of the Republican or Democratic party. Even Mr. Cleveland's reëlection by an overwhelming majority will only signify endorsement of himself personally, and hardly at all of his financial views, which few of the people will understand, and which will not have had and will not have any direct effect upon the policy of the country.

Suppose, now, at this moment the Secretary of the Treasury had a seat on the floor of the House. Without any aggressive movement on his part, his mere presence would force on a discussion of the subject. Being in accord with the President, he would defend his views. Members would soon begin to get notice from their constituents that they had better pay some attention to what the Secretary said. A national policy would begin to take shape in place of a conflict of local ones, and the election next autumn would turn not merely upon the personality of the President, nor even upon the undefined distinction between Republicans and Democrats, but upon a method of conducting the finances in the interest of the nation. The President has taken a long step towards appealing to the support of the nation. He may yet see his way towards putting it in still more effective shape.

G. B.

Boston, December 10, 1887.

THE UNITED STATES SUPREME COURT AND PROHIBITION.

To the Editor of The Nation:

Sir: In view of the opinion just handed down by the Supreme Court of the United States in the Kansas brewery cases, a short review of the attitude of the same court on the question of State prohibitory enactments, both before and since the adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment, may be interesting.

Before the adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment, no power resided in the Supreme Court of the United States to prevent any State from depriving a citizen thereof of his property, without due process of law. For, whereas, by the Constitution of the United States, a person could not be so deprived by Federal authority, he yet might be by State authority; there being no inhibition, in this respect, upon the States in the Constitution of the United States. Thus the statement is made by Justice Taney, in an opinion delivered long before the adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment: "It is well settled by the decisions of this court that a State law may be retroactive in character, may divest vested rights, and yet not violate the Constitution of the United States." A prohibitory liquor law, therefore, enacted by any State prior to the adoption of the Fourteenth Amendment, even if said law operated in such a way as to deprive a person of his property without due process of law, conflicted in no way with the Constitution of the United States. Hence the declaration of the United States Supreme Court,

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in 1847, in the license cases (5 How., p. 577), that "if any State deem the retail and internal traffic in ardent spirits injurious to its citizens, there is nothing in the Constitution of the United States to prevent it from regulating said traffic, or even prohibiting it altogether."

But, by the Fourteenth Amendment to the Constitution of the United States, adopted in 1868, it was provided that "no *State* shall deprive any person of his life, liberty, or property without due process of law." It at once became evident that no longer was it true that a State could divest vested rights and yet not violate the Constitution of the United States. And the question arose, Does an out-and-out prohibitory liquor law deprive a person of his property without due process of law, or, in other words, divest him of his vested rights? The point that it did was made in the case of Bartemeyer vs. Iowa (18 Wall, p. 129), and the United States Supreme Court there stated that, while such was not its effect in the case under consideration, yet that, if a prohibitory liquor law should so operate, in a given instance, as to absolutely destroy and wipe out property lawfully in existence *prior* to its passage, it would probably be in conflict with the Fourteenth Amendment. The same thing was said again by the same court in Beer Co. vs. Mass. (97 U. S., p. 25). The exact language of the court is: "We do not mean to say that property actually in existence, and in which the right of the owner has become vested, may be taken for the public good without due compensation. But we infer that the liquor in this case, as in the case of Bartemeyer vs. Iowa, *was not in existence when the liquor law of Massachusetts was passed.* Had the plaintiff in error relied on the existence of the property *prior to the law*, it behooved it to show that fact." It is fair to presume, therefore (unless the one or two changes in the personnel of the court, since the above language was used, have made a difference in the views of the court), that, had the retailers of liquors continued to sell (after the passage of the Kansas or Iowa prohibitory law) only liquors, viz., ales, wine, and beer, manufactured *prior* thereto, in such sales they would have been protected by the United States Supreme Court.

But the point raised in the Kansas cases just decided is quite a different one. It is whether or not a prohibitory liquor law in instances where, by its operation, property—*i. e.*, breweries, saloon fixtures, etc.—is not absolutely destroyed and wiped out, but only *much depreciated in value*—whether, in such instances, it conflicts with the Fourteenth Amendment. And that it was not improbable that this point would be decided adversely to the liquor-dealer was discernible from the very guarded language of the court in Bartemeyer vs. Iowa, and Beer Co. vs. Mass. The real basis for the holding of the United States Supreme Court in the Kansas cases is well enunciated by the Court of Appeals of New York in the case of Hynehamer vs. the People (3 Kern., p. 435). "It is not sufficient," the Court says, "that they [prohibitory liquor laws] *impair* the value of property in ever so great a degree, because this *destroys* no right. All regulations of trade, with a view to the public interests, may more or less *impair* the value of property, but they do not come within the constitutional inhibition unless they virtually *take away* and *destroy* those rights in which property consists; this destruction must be for all substantial purposes total. Not that some minute and trivial interests would uphold the act; a substantial right of property must be saved, and the provision must be such as may fairly be construed as intended to *regulate* rather than *subvert* and *destroy* property."

Right here let it be noted that it does not follow, because there are exempted from the operation of a prohibitory liquor law liquors to be used merely for medicinal purposes, that, therefore, said law does not "virtually take away and destroy" property rights, and so contravene the Fourteenth Amendment. It is quite probable that, so far as liquors in existence prior to the passage of a prohibitory law are concerned, such a law would be equally unconstitutional, either with or without an exemption in favor of the sale of liquors for medicinal purposes. Say the Court, in Hynehamer vs. the People:

"He must be allowed to know, what is known by all persons of common intelligence, that intoxicating liquors are produced for sale and consumption *as a beverage;* that such has been their primary and principal use in all ages and countries; and that it is *this* use which has imparted to them, in this State, more than ninety-nine hundredths of their commercial value. It must follow that any scheme of legislation which, *aiming at the destruction of this use*, makes the keeping or sale of them, *as a beverage*, in any quantity and by any person, a criminal offence—which declares them a public nuisance—which subjects them to seizure and physical destruction . . . —must be deemed, in every beneficial sense, to deprive the owner of the enjoyment of his property."

But, to return to the decision in the Kansas cases, while it has been definitely settled that a law—in the nature of a police regulation—greatly *impairing*, but not absolutely *destroying*, property in existence prior to its passage, is not repugnant to the Fourteenth Amendment, as depriving a person of his property without due process of law, it will continue a matter of regret, even with many firm friends of temperance, that, in suddenly stopping a traffic before (as in Ohio) encouraged by the State and protected by its laws, time was not given those engaged therein to convert their property to other uses, or else compensation made them for their loss.

IRVING B. RICHMAN.

MUSCATINE, IOWA, December 9, 1887.

CORRUPTION OF ENGLISH.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: Having had occasion lately to examine a recent work on a subject connected with natural science, I was struck by the author's fondness for artificial words manufactured from Latin and Greek, when common English words would have expressed the thought just as exactly and neatly. Of course every science has its terminology, and many barbarous combinations have acquired meanings which cannot be so easily expressed in other ways; but why is it necessary to write 'ligneous' when the writer means 'woody,' and 'nyctitropic' for 'night-turning'? I have known a scientist of another kind to say 'hypotactic' when he meant 'subordinate,' and still another to abandon English 'nest' for Latin 'nidus.' These expressions undoubtedly become familiar to those who use them constantly, and the conception of the thought is brought about with no weariness of the mind; but the young learner finds the real difficulties of mastering a science increased by such artificial ones—an addition of labor of no value educationally.

The evil has become so great in botany, at least, that Sachs calls for a halt. Certainly the importation of undressed Greek roots brings about no genuine enrichment of language. Specialists ought to speak a tongue understood of the people, especially when they are addressing children.—I am, etc.,

W. A. MERRILL.

COLLEGE HILL, OHIO, December 1, 1887.

MAGAZINE READING FOR SCHOOL-CHILDREN.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE NATION:

SIR: In the Editor's Easy Chair of the November *Harper*, Mr. Curtis congratulates the public that, by the liberality of a patron, the magazine is to be used henceforth as a reading-book in some of the schools, and he calls upon the children to rejoice because they are to be entertained and instructed by its pages.

Is there not danger of dwelling too much upon the entertaining of children in the present scheme of education? Does not the child turn readily enough and often enough to the ephemeral in literature? When is his attention to be directed to such written portions of his own tongue as are worthy to be ranked with the classics, if not while he is under tutelage? Cannot most of us recall some teacher who awakened in us the desire to read an author whose works are handed down from age to age, by interesting us in some selected portion of his works? The children who are taught in the public schools particularly need to be shown the best parts of English literature, for it is often their sole opportunity of having their attention called to them. They should have better models of style than are found in the literature of the day. To my mind, neither the teacher nor the pupil should have for his ideal such writings as are found either in the magazines or the newspapers, however worthy these may be. There are not many who attain their ideal, and very few who surpass it. The child of this generation is the "heir of all the ages," and the teacher's business is to show him his inheritance. When he comes to full age, there will be pressure enough from outside to call his attention to the new and the fleeting in literature.

If Mr. Curtis will tell us from his Easy Chair what helped to form his taste when he was a child, and how his style in writing was acquired, I think the school committees and the benevolent patrons of education will be very wise to follow the same methods, in the hope that some of their pupils may attain the same result.

Very sincerely, M. N. S.

NEW BEDFORD, December 5, 1887.

Notes.

'THE FISHES OF NORTH AMERICA' is the title of a work upon which has been engaged for a number of years Mr. Wm. C. Harris, editor of the *American Angler*, and which will soon begin to be published in instalments on a very liberal plan—"If the text and plates of the first part are not satisfactory," the subscriber will not be held to the following parts. The fish have been painted from the life. "In many studies of individual fish, the artist has caught the coloration from at least ten, and often twenty-five, specimens laid before him as they came struggling from the water." Each of the parts will contain at least two colored fish portraits, printed on heavy cardboard, and will average a foot in length. The letterpress will be scientific and narrative, containing much practical information.

Bernard Quaritch, 15 Piccadilly, London, sends us the prospectus of a new and original translation of 'Don Quixote,' by Mr. H. E. Watts, who has labored upon it for seventeen years. It is neither mutilated nor abridged, and will be equipped with an exhaustive commentary, with a new biography of Cervantes, etc. It will fill five volumes, foolscap quarto, and will be limited to 250 copies at sixteen shil-

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lings per volume. The first two volumes are set down for the spring.

Mr. Chas. Mackay, LL.D., is about to publish his 'Dictionary of Lowland Scotch,' upon which he has been engaged for several years. It gives the more important words, with their meanings and etymological derivations, together with an introduction dealing with the historical and literary development of the language, and an appendix of Scottish proverbs. A vade mecum for every lover of Burns, Scott, Ramsay, and other Scottish writers, it contains numerous extracts from their writings, and illustrates the poetry and humor of the Lowland vernacular. The first edition, privately printed on Whatman paper, will be limited to 125 copies, each one being numbered and signed by the author himself.

The Industrial Education Association of this city will commence next month the publication of Educational Monographs of moderate compass, with special reference to manual training. President Gilman leads off with 'A Plea for the Training of the Hand.'

'A Course in Bench Work,' embracing both study and practice, and designed for schools and colleges, by Prof. W. F. M. Goss, is in the press of Ginn & Co.

'The Indian Side of the Indian Question,' by the Rev. William Barrows, is a forthcoming book from the press of D. Lothrop Co., Boston.

Houghton, Mifflin & Co. will shortly issue 'The Story of the Old Willard House of Deerfield, Mass.,' by Catharine B. Yale.

Mr. Austin Dobson's volume of 'Selections from Goldsmith,' uniform with his 'Selections from Steele,' will be published at once by the Clarendon Press (New York: Macmillan); and his new sketch of Goldsmith's life will follow shortly in the "Great Writers" series.

We can at this time barely announce the fact that the critical edition of Goethe's Works, issued under the auspices of the Grand Duchess of Saxe-Weimar, and based on documents not available before the opening of the Goethe Archives, has begun to appear (Weimar: Hermann Böhlau; New York: B. Westermann & Co.). Before us are volumes representing three of the four grand divisions of the series, viz., one of the Poems, one of the First Part of "Faust," one of the Journals (1775-1787), and two of the Letters (1764-1775). The form is a convenient octavo. The commentary is massed at the end of each volume. Divisions one and two will fill fifty and about ten volumes respectively; the remaining divisions, an as yet unknown number. The subscription is by divisions, not by volumes.

On the first appearance of M. Eugène Müntz's 'Raphael: His Life, Works, and Times,' we expressed our view of its shortcomings in some of the larger aspects of art biography and art criticism, particularly in its excessive panegyric of the great painter. As a convenient repository of the main facts in his career, and, thanks to the very abundant illustrations, a memorandum of his principal works, we could heartily commend it. The original French version having undergone important revision, a new edition of the English version was plainly called for, and this is now on our table (London: Chapman & Hall; New York: A. C. Armstrong & Son). The volume is beautifully made, and has both the external and the intrinsic qualities of an acceptable gift book. M. Müntz, by the way, has in preparation a similar work on Leonardo, of which the chapter on the youth of this artist has already been published.

The eighth number of the 'Battles and Leaders of the Civil War' (Century Co.) closes the first volume of a genuine and model subscription book. The narrative ends with the loss of the *Monitor*.

Last March the Incorporated Society of Authors held meetings at Willis's Rooms in London to discuss the better protection of authors' rights. Lord Lytton, Sir Frederick Pollock, and Sir Francis Adams presided, and Mr. Walter Besant, Mr. Edmund Gosse, and Mr. John Hollingshead delivered the addresses. These speeches and addresses have now been collected in a plump volume, 'The Grievances between Authors and Publishers' (London: Field & Tuer; New York: Scribner & Welford); the original matter being supplemented by letters from Mr. Tuer (the publisher of the book), Mr. George Smith (of Smith, Elder & Co.), Mr. George Haven Putnam, and Mr. Walter Besant, who sums up the discussion.

MM. E. Guillaume & Cie., who prepared the delightfully original edition of 'Tartarin sur les Alpes' two years ago, have followed up that great success this fall with three books illustrated in the same way. One of these, 'Madame Chrysanthème,' by "Pierre Loti," is issued in conjunction with the *Figaro*, which was also interested in 'Tartarin.' It is most beautifully illustrated after drawings and water-colors by M. Rossi and M. Myrbach; the black-and-white blocks are more successful than those in color attempting a reproduction of water-color effects. The other two books are new editions of George Sand's 'François le Champi' and of M. Paul Deroulède's fiery 'Chants du Soldat.' M. Eugène Burnand is the artist in charge of George Sand's tale, and he has rendered its bucolic flavor excellently.

The International News Co. have received the *Figaro Illustré*, English edition. We have but to repeat what we have just said above as to the colored and black-and-white illustrations. M. Boutet de Monvel's naïf art in portraying children is here shown characteristically in color. The French latitude of text and pictures must be taken for granted.

A light paper, blown up around the circumstance of the writer's having offered boyish verses to Béranger, ushers in *Le Livre* for November. It is from the pen of M. Lemercier de Neuville, and is at least of better quality than the group of indifferent portraits of the poet which accompanies it. The librettist of Mozart's "Don Juan," Lorenzo d'Aponte, to whose morals the theme was entirely congenial, is given a spark of centennial life by Arsène Arüss. D'Aponte drifted to New York, and, as we are told, "died at Columbia College in 1838, in the most distressing poverty." There follows, for the third article, a translation from Petrarch's Latin Eclogues III. and XI., for the sake of their allusions to his love for Laura. Among the news are uncommonly full items, like the report of the second Congress of the Friends of Rabelais on October 9; inedited letters of Voltaire pertaining to investments, from a German source; a curious statement of the extent to which French publishers are plundered by book-thieves, who sell to cheap dealers—these thieves sometimes being printers or binders, who abstract signatures from several volumes till a whole one results; and finally a glimpse of the "Hundred Best Books" mania across the Channel, where it takes the form of "A Library in Twenty Volumes." Altogether, this number of *Le Livre* is above the average in interest.

The most important article in the Christmas number of the *English Illustrated Magazine* is Mr. Fitzgerald Molloy's "What Players are They?" with eleven woodcuts of pictures of the chief performers of the last century. Mr. Molloy is, so to speak, a pupil of Dr. Doran; with a more frequent carelessness and a narrower knowledge of the bio-bibliography of the theatre. This paper is pleasantly written, and it serves as an excuse for the reproduction of paintings by Zoffany and his fellows. Perhaps the most successful portrait is the full-page Peg Woffington as *Mrs. Ford*, engraved by O. Lacour from the picture by E. Haytley.

The *Antiquary* for November begins with an article upon Olympia, by Major E. Gambier-Perry, summing up in a useful manner our information in regard to its history, the recent discoveries there, and the games there celebrated. Of "Famous Birthplaces" we have Hayes Place in Kent, where Lord Chatham died and his illustrious son was born. In an article upon "The Early Custody of Domesday Book," Mr. Hubert Hall takes issue with a previous series of papers by Mr. Round, which maintained that this, together with the other documents of the Exchequer, was kept at Winchester. His own theory is that of "the gradual withdrawal of the records, etc., from Winchester to a new headquarters at London." No reader, he says, of the 'Dialogus de Scaccario' would doubt that the Exchequer, etc., were at Westminster. "Bone Caves," by H. P. Malet, and "John Felton, a Memoir," have each its second part. In the November number Sir J. H. Ramsay continues his valuable series upon royal accounts, with the "Accounts of Edward IV." Mr. Henry B. Wheatley contributes a valuable philological paper "On the Date of the Suppression of the Letter S in French Orthography" in such words as *apostre*, *epistre*, *escriture*. This reform he shows to have taken place in the seventeenth century, and chiefly through the influence of the French Academy, founded by Richelieu. Both numbers contain several other shorter papers.

Wilhelm Friedrich's little Select Catalogue, just received from Leipzig, contains seven excellent portraits of popular authors—Gerhard von Amyntor, Carl Bleibtreu, E. von Hartmann, Hermann Heiberg, Detlev Freiherr von Liliencron, Wilhelm Walloth, and the one authoress, B. von Suttner.

L. Prang & Co. are first in the field—first in our field, at least—with samples of their holiday tokens, ranging from Christmas and New Year's cards, metallic mounts, and velvet and satin-covered blotters, up to real books like this 'Gay Day for 7,' with clever colored illustrations *à la* Kate Greenaway. Flowers form the leading motive for the decorative designs, and often accompany the figure subjects, of which there is none better, among the cards, than the two little winter-clad maidens wishing one another a happy new year over the wall. Some yellow roses and a pansied star please us most in the floral line. The metallic mount "Come, bring the holly," is well devised and very harmonious in tone. Facetiae are not wanting: the overturned bottle of ink points a New Year's moral.

Close upon these domestic productions come those of the London (and New York) firm of Raphael Tuck & Sons. In respect of color printing, the samples submitted to us rank, on the whole, below those we have just been considering, but the variety is prodigious, and there is the greatest difference in the physiognomy (if we may use the expression) of the American and English issues. The Messrs. Tuck send us innumerable cards, of all sizes, and some of leaf and fruit and mollusc shapes. A little landscape on satin attracts us more than some of the card landscapes with decorative backing. Calendars are in this assortment, and a panel copy in colors of the Ansidei Raphael, now in the National Gallery; and a "bevelled porcelain study" of a mounted soldier, seemingly photographic, in a safety-box. The "Artist-

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ic Private Card Series" is likely to be popular, furnishing cards in envelopes in a neat paper box.

Christmas leaf-shaped books-no-books also come to us from Geo. R. Lockwood & Son of this city, together with sundry real books in white and gold—'Christmas Flowers,' by Adelaide Ann Proctor, 'Old Christmas Carols,' etc., 'Christmas Eve, or the Angel Guest,' and 'The Star in the East.' Here, in default of illustrations, we have colored borders besides handsome typography. In blue and white and gold is a short body of selections from 'Ben Hur,' 'Seekers After "The Light."' The little etchings are rather primitive in design and execution, but they help make a very tasteful book.

Finally, in this holiday outlook, we must notice 'Kate Greenaway's Almanac for 1888' (Routledge), of which the water-color cover is hardly consonant with the oil prints within; and the same publishers' 'Voices of the Flowers,' illustrating the verses of Whittier, Moore, and Shakspere respectively. The colored plates in this series are formal and of a rather poor grade of color printing.

E. & J. B. Young & Co. are the agents for the illustrated "Peniel Series" of the Castell Brothers, London. 'Gray's Elegy' is one, and Mrs. Hemans's 'Landing of the Pilgrim Fathers' is another. In the latter the "stern and rock-bound" coast of sandy Plymouth is given a tolerable resemblance to the Welsh coast. But these little books are well made and pretty.

Students of Dutch will be glad to have their attention directed to 'Nederlandsche Taal- en Letterkunde: Catalogus van Boeken over Nederlandsche Taal- en Letterkunde verkrijgbaar bij den Boekhandelaar R. W. P. de Vries,' which is not merely the ordinary bookseller's catalogue, although each item is priced and can be furnished by Mr. de Vries. The occasion of the twentieth Congress for the Language and Literature of the Netherlands meeting at Amsterdam has stimulated the compiler to strive to produce a work the completeness and accuracy of which should give it a permanent value, and the result exhibits a bibliographical painstaking which deserves a word of hearty praise. The 1,824 titles occupy 296 small quarto pages, the older and more important ones being printed with extreme fulness and excellent typography, while of collections, "works," and essays, the contents are given. The titles are arranged under topics, and, chronologically, under the centuries, and are followed by an index of authors.

The new universal language has at length obtained academic recognition. The Senate of the University of Munich, the third largest in Germany, has voted to permit Privatdocent Dr. J. E. Weiss to give lectures on Volapük to the students. But there is already room for lectures on comparative international linguistics, for there lies before us Dr. Esperanto's 'Langue Internationale: Préface et Manuel Complet' (and the same brochure in German), published at Warsaw. It cannot be denied that the inventor's name is of good omen. His motto is piquant and combative: "For a language to be universal, 'tis not enough to give it the name."

The fifth annual Convention of the Modern Language Association of America will be held at the University of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, on the 28th, 29th, and 30th of this month. On the evening of the 28th, addresses will be delivered by Dr. Wm. Pepper, Provost of the University of Pennsylvania, and Prof. James MacAlister, Superintendent of Public Schools of Philadelphia. This and the subsequent meetings of the Association will be open to the general public. Papers will be read by Professors Collitz (Bryn Mawr), Fortier (Tulane University), Shepherd and Primer (College of Charleston), Karsten (Indiana University), Tolman (Ripon College), H. S. White (Cornell University), Wood, Elliott, Goebel, Bright (Johns Hopkins), Kroeh (Hoboken), Lang (New Bedford), and A. H. Smyth (Philadelphia). Attractive social arrangements for the entertainment of the delegates of the Association and their friends have been provided for by the Local Committee.

An Alaskan Society of Sitka has been formed at the instance of President Gilman of Johns Hopkins and President Butler of the College for the Training of Teachers, in this city, for collecting and preserving information concerning the arts, history, language, folk-lore, etc., of the native Alaskans, and the natural history of the Territory, continental and insular. It is also designed to establish a museum at Sitka.

—We omitted mention at the proper time of the July number of the *English Historical Review*, and will now only say, by way of record, that it contained three leading articles—"Aetius and Boniface," by E. A. Freeman; "Byzantine Palaces," by J. Theodore Bent; and "Queen Caroline of Naples," by Oscar Browning. The October number has four articles. The first is "The Movements of the Roman Legions from Augustus to Severus" by E. G. Hardy, an article the materials of which have been largely drawn from inscriptions, the indispensable source of information for the period of the Empire. It will be found of great service for the study of military operations of this period. An important article follows, by Mr. Bryce, "The Life of Justinian by Theodorus"; being an account of a manuscript discovered by him in the library of the Barberini palace in Rome, which he identifies with a work mentioned by Alemanni in the early part of the seventeenth century, as being by Theodorus, the preceptor of Justinian. The work, which is very short, is given in full, and is shown to contain all the items mentioned by Alemanni. The third article is by the historian Gardiner, "Charles I. and the Earl of Glamorgan." The authenticity of the treaty made by Glamorgan with the Irish in 1645 has been questioned, or rather it has been alleged that he acted beyond the powers granted him by the King, in promising to the Irish Catholics not only relief from the penal laws, but also "a freedom of Roman Catholics from the ecclesiastical jurisdiction of the Protestant clergy." Mr. Gardiner's view is that Glamorgan's powers were very large and indefinite, but were not intended by the King to include these concessions. "Taken by themselves, these powers might authorize Glamorgan to do anything. Taken with the instructions, they authorized him to do anything of which Ormond approved." The last article is by an American, Mr. Andrew McFarland Davis, on "The Employment of Indian Auxiliaries in the American War." He shows that the first proposition to employ such auxiliaries was made by the Americans themselves. "America practically failed in her efforts. England succeeded. The responsibility thus assumed by England was far greater than that which success would have imposed upon her opponent. As allies of the American forces, the savages would have been able to vent their passions only on subjects. Acting as auxiliaries of the English, the homes of hundreds of border settlers were exposed to their raids." These articles are followed by the usual number of "Notes and Documents" and "Reviews of Books."

—The Journal of the Royal Statistical Society for September opens with an elaborate paper on the "Mortality Among the Troops Serving in the United Kingdom from Consumption," by Robert Lawson, the Inspector-General of Hospitals. In 1839, the first year for which the statistics are available, the deaths of soldiers by consumption was nearly twice that of those in civil life, being 9.38 per 1,000. In the years 1880–84, the number had fallen to 3.63 per 1,000, as against 2.81 in civil life. Dr. Lawson makes the somewhat surprising statement that the great improvement in the construction and ventilation of barracks and hospitals made about twenty years ago was not followed by the expected decrease in consumption. A decrease was observed immediately, however, after the substitution of flannel shirts for linen or calico, and woollen pants for white linen. In the reports from five foreign stations during the years 1879–84, it appears that consumption prevails most in Mauritius and Ceylon, with a percentage of 3.20 in 1,000, America coming next with 2.78, the Cape of Good Hope and Natal showing the lowest percentage, 1.35.

—Mr. Joseph Rabino gives a singularly clear and condensed "Statistical Story of the Suez Canal." He divides his paper into five sections—political, historical, technical, financial, and commercial, the most interesting figures being, of course, in the last two, though we may mention that the total excavations amounted to 2,649,000,000 cubic feet. The permanent population of the Isthmus, which was 150 in 1859, is now 21,000, including 7,000 Europeans, and not including Suez, but recently an Arab village, now a town of 11,000 inhabitants. The assets in 1870 were £18,211,444, in 1886 £22,917,565, the cost of construction and improvements to date being £20,234,985. The first year in which there were any profits was 1872, when they were £82,851. The high-water mark was reached in 1883, with profits amounting to £927,499. Last year they were £627,284, or less than any year since 1880. The surplus in 1870 was £5,873,234, at present £6,039,693. The receipts the first year in which the canal was opened for traffic were £754,532, of which £228,750 were from navigation dues. In 1883 they were £2,740,933, of which the tolls were £2,645,504, the total receipts up to the close of last year having been very nearly £25,000,000. The par value of the shares is 500 francs, and they have fluctuated from 165 in 1871 to 3,550 in 1882, the average value in 1886 having been 2,095. The shareholders receive 71 per cent. of the profits, and got their first dividend of £30,153 in 1875. In 1883 their portion was £1,018,524, the largest yet paid. The total amount paid in dividends to the shareholders has been £6,132,740, or 7½ per cent. yearly on their original outlay. They have also, in addition, a coupon bond. Singularly, the expenses for the years 1870 and 1886 were almost identically the same sum, being £754,532 in the former, and £754,567 in the latter year. The number of vessels passing through the canal has increased in sixteen years from 486, with a net tonnage of 436,609, to 3,100, net tonnage 5,767,656. The tonnage dues were 9.95 francs the first year; in 1873 they were raised to 15.17 francs. In 1886 they were 9.49 francs. The largest amount of business was done in 1885, when the dues were lowest, 9.04 francs; 3,624 vessels, 6,335,752 net tonnage, passing through. During eleven years 655,547 troops have been carried through the canal, another remarkable coincidence being that the number of English soldiers in 1885 was 43,813, of French 43,655, and in 1886, English 31,161, French 31,645. Of the 3,100 vessels making the passage last year, nearly five-sixths were English; the French, Germans, and Dutch having the next largest numbers. The United States is

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classed among the 18 "all others." In the discussion which followed the reading of the paper in the Society it was announced that, after the proposed widening was completed, the length of time required for the transit would be reduced from thirty-six to twelve hours. And here it may be interesting to notice that the geographical knowledge of the Isthmus at the time of the construction of the canal was so imperfect that a canal was dug from the Nile to supply Ismailia and Suez with fresh water, while it has since been discovered that there is a plentiful supply of fresh water close to the marine canal. Had this been known at that time, Sir Charles Warren remarks in his recent address before the British Association, "it is questionable how far any occupation of Egypt would have been necessary."

— The sixteenth day of this month will be the three hundred and third anniversary of the birth of John Selden, a great name among English lawyers, and that day will witness the first anniversary meeting of a society named in his honor. The "Selden Society" has been founded "to encourage the study and advance the knowledge of the history of English law." We called attention to the "draft prospectus" of this Society earlier in the year, when it was yet in a "provisional" stage, and we then expressed the hope that an enterprise of such possibilities for our law might meet with a support that would enable it to go forward with vigor. This it seems to be doing. A late announcement says that it is hoped that the first volume to be published by the Society may be in the hands of subscribers before the end of the year. This volume will be a publication of Thirteenth Century Pleas of the Crown from the Eyre Rolls, edited with a translation by Mr. Maitland of Cambridge University. These cases are expected to throw an instructive light upon the genesis of our petty jury, and from them we may see how the twelve hundredors and four townsmen of Bracton became the two juries of a later time. How the ordeals of fire and water gradually passed into the modern form of trial will also be illustrated. Each subscriber receives all the publications for the year. The annual subscription is one guinea, and members have no further liability of any kind. The Society is for laymen as well as lawyers. Professor J. B. Thayer of the Harvard Law School continues to be the Honorary Secretary for America, but a number of local secretaries have been named in the larger cities throughout the country—in New York, Mr. Alexander Tison, whose address is 45 William Street.

—We have received the prospectus of an English version of Hachette's collection of "Grands Écrivains Français," which is to be issued under the general title: 'Great French Writers' (Geo. Routledge & Sons). The first volumes to appear will be M. Gaston Boissier's 'Madame de Sévigné,' translated by Mr. Henry Llewellyn Williams, and M. Albert Sorel's 'Montesquieu,' translated by M. Gustave Masson. It is to be hoped that these translations will be more lightly done than that of the prospectus for the original work, which is rendered into very heavy English in the sheet that has reached us. In it the translator talks of the "profound taste for historical researches" of our century, which "it has yielded itself up to with a success unknown to anterior times," and of the "erudite pens" which have engaged in "reviving the great writers of all literature." These are mere eccentricities of style; but the pretentious mistranslations of M. Jusserand's French are more offensive. It would be difficult to bring together a greater number of blunders of all kinds than there are in the translation of the passage beginning "Initiateurs d'abord"—"Imitators first, then diffusers at large, the French were the foremost, in the vortex of the turbulence marking the opening of the Middle Ages, to resuscitate literature. . . . The study of mediæval literature commenced in France ere it was propagated throughout Europe. . . . The realm of Louis XIV. lifted form into honor"—and concluding with "our own electric and scientific era." But even this is not the worst our translator can do. He is quite inimitable when he rises to original work, and supplies passages not in the French, as in the following: "Hence the great thinkers of French literature interest not merely their direct descendants at home, but the strangers around her numerous posterity scattered beyond the frontiers; wherever in England the Huguenots carried arts and crafts, and in the Americas and Australia, where the Canadian *voyageur* and fur-hunter traversed the wilds, where Lieut. Bellot sought for Franklin in the eternal ice, and where La Pérouse planted the red, white, and blue." These novel literary, historical, and geographical views need no comment.

RECENT POETRY.

THE harvest of poetry is this year so great, on both sides the Atlantic, as to make one feel that Sydney Smith's dream must have come true, and that there are now thirty-nine muses and only nine articles of faith. It is perhaps fortunate for the critic that so many of these newborn volumes prove to be *biblia abiblia*, or book-no-books; so many of them are, like the rhymes of Pope's young aspirant,

"Inspired by hunger and request of friends,"

as greatly to simplify the work of selection. The best among recent volumes of American verse is doubtless the reprint of Mr. R. W. Gilder's poems by the Century Company. It is to this author, more than to any other man of his years, that we must look for leadership out of what Mr. Stedman has called the twilight of the poets, in order that we may yet have another productive era in American verse. It is all the more to be regretted, therefore, that he should imitate his favorite Rossetti in rearranging the order of his poems, from time to time, and so confusing their bibliography; recombining them, that is, in separate volumes, after they had once been brought together. The 'Lyrics and Other Poems' of the edition of 1885 are now again divided into 'Lyrics' and 'The New Day,' while 'The Celestial Passion' includes the later poems not embraced in the edition of 1885. We thus have three thin books, separately paged and indexed, tastefully bound in illuminated paper, and altogether offering about the requisite material for a single adequate volume. Such variations mar the unity and definiteness of an author's impression upon the public mind, and give a needless effect of variableness and whim. For the rest, Mr. Gilder's muse, which was always exquisitely graceful, grows stronger with years; and its strength rises with the theme, as in the following sonnet, which, while varying from the now customary Italian form, has a terseness and vigor all its own:

THE SOUL.

Three messengers to me from heaven came,
And said: "There is a deathless human soul—
It is not lost, as is the fiery flame
That dies into the undistinguishing whole.
Ah, no; it separate is, distinct as God—
Nor any more than He can it be killed;
Then fearless give thy body to the clod,
For naught can quench the light that once it filled!"
Three messengers—the first was human Love;
The second voice came crying in the night,
With strange and awful music from above—
None who have heard that voice forget it quite;
BIRTH is it named. The third, O, turn not pale!—
'Twas DEATH to the undying soul cried, Hail! (P. 59.)

Miss Edith Thomas represents among what Southey profanely called the "she-poets" of America the same element of promise represented by Mr. Gilder among the men. She is in danger of publishing too much, but her 'Lyrics and Sonnets' (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.) must be admitted to contain some of her most delicate work, as, for instance, that exquisitely wrought poem, "Frailty's Shield" (p. 31). The external beauty of the book—surely the work of some special artist whom this house has lately retained to design its covers—goes fitly with the contents; and the simultaneous appearance from the same establishment, in soberer guise, of the 'Early and Late Poems' of the Cary sisters, shows conclusively the astonishing advance in the poetic work of American women which dates from the comparatively brief career of Helen Jackson ("H. H."). Before her—Mrs. Sigourney, the Davidsons, and the Carys; since her time—Miss Thomas, Mrs. Perry, Mrs. Deland, and Miss Jennison. It is an astonishing step forward in thought, emotion, and expression.

We should place as easily first among reprinted volumes of poetry, and perhaps among all gift-books for the coming Christmas, the new volume of 'Lyrics, Idylls, and Romances' from Browning (Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.). It far exceeds either of the New York collections (edited respectively by Mr. White and Mr. Mason) in felicity of choice and beauty of external form; and it surpasses the editions of Mr. Rolfe and Miss Hersey in that it is not arranged for school purposes, and has neither preface nor notes. We can suggest no improvement on the selection of poems, except that the poem "Before" should have been given as well as its companion poem "After"; and nothing to improve the details of execution, except here and there a possible change in the punctuation. For example, the editor of this volume, in the closing line of "Childe Roland," strikes out the period which originally divided it:

"And blew. "Childe Roland to the Dark Tower came."

This is the way it appears in the American edition of 1856; and this makes the words in quotation-marks a sort of colophon, or a final recurrence by the minstrel to the keynote of the strain. But it is printed in the present volume:

"And blew "Childe Roland to the Dark Tower came,"

as if the 'Childe Roland' were some particular note upon the horn. The same omission occurs in the careful edition of Mr. Rolfe and Miss Hersey, nor is any explanation given in the notes. If expressly authorized by Mr. Browning, it should be mentioned, for it is well known that many misprints have occurred in the English editions of his works. For the rest, this one little volume contains a sufficient refutation of two common impressions in regard to Browning: that he is needlessly obscure, and that his genius is not distinctively lyrical.

Among English poems not yet reprinted in this country, the reader inevitably turns first to the latest production of "Michael Field"; for, however this author may persist in taking Marlowe instead of Shakspere for a model, there is always some suggestion of the "mighty line." The heroes and heroines cut and slash with words, as in the stage-business; and there is often a forbidding nakedness of human emotion; but power is always hopeful, until it is evident that it is to remain raw and crude, not mellowing with time. No sure light on this point is afforded by 'Canute the Great. The Cup of Water' (London: George Bell & Sons); yet it must be owned that this last play shows a

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dawning softness which gives promise. The old gardener says of love (p. 136): "It's all sweet, I reckon, when one is young and of a warm climate inside like the vine-house"; and there is a good deal of this sweet vine-house atmosphere in the play. Another of the sword-and-buckler books is a rather ambitious epic on 'The Death of Roland' (London: Trübner), by John Frederick Rowbotham, author of an extended history of music. It is the first of a proposed series of poetical romances, and though it cannot be called enjoyable, it has a certain interest as based upon a new experiment in epic rhythm. Mr. Rowbotham holds that the hexameter is now ineligible, having been based on Greek music, which habitually ran in pairs or phrases of three bars; whereas modern music is phrased in four bars, and implies rather an octometer, which he employs. So he writes about

"The glory of Roland, the peerless Paladin, and the great rout at Roncesvalles,"

and so on for twenty cantos. In curious contrast to this exalted effort is the dingy little pamphlet 'Low Down: Wayside Thoughts in Ballad and Other Verse, by Two Tramps' (London: Redway). It is coarsely printed on cheap paper of various hues, and stitched with packthread; the poems are dated at many different points in England and America, and there is nothing about them which seems especially vigorous or authentic. 'Underwoods,' by Robert Louis Stevenson (New York: Scribners), has nothing in it quite worthy of the borrowed title; but there is throughout a flavor of the author's characteristic personality which his readers may well enjoy, since he so obviously enjoys it for himself, and so large a part of these poems relates to himself and his friends.

In 'Prince Lucifer,' by Alfred Austin (New York: Macmillan), the author sustains the impression he has always made, of a pair of tongs that do not quite reach the coals. He takes himself very seriously, addresses himself to high themes, brings in the Weisshorn and the Matterhorn as interlocutors, but, after all, we are left unwarmed. Lord Lytton, in 'After Paradise; or, Legends of Exile' (Boston: Estes & Lauriat), is still remoter from the sacred fire, and is so tame that one sometimes sighs even for a touch of that "featherheadedness" with which he has been charged as a statesman. Mrs. Augusta Webster's 'The Sentence' (London: Unwin; New York: Scribner & Welford) is far superior to either of these works; it is a strong, sustained, and rather grim tragedy of the times of Caligula. It is rather a relief to turn from even this to the ever-delicate and fanciful 'Garden Secrets' of the late Philip Bourke Marston, here reprinted separately in a dainty volume (Boston: Roberts), with a biographical sketch by the American friend to whom the blind young poet expressed himself as being so much indebted—Mrs. Louise Chandler Moulton.

Among recent English translations there is a version of Schiller's 'Wallenstein,' by C. G. N. Lockhart (Edinburgh: Blackwood). The volume includes "The Piccolomini" and "The Death of Wallenstein," and omits "Wallenstein's Camp," on the avowed ground that it is hard to render. This would not be surprising, since Coleridge made the same omission, were it not for the fact that Mr. Lockhart, who has resided for many years in Australia, served in the Austrian Army during his youth, and might have been supposed to be attracted by the omitted play of the trilogy. His version is valuable less for its poetic quality than as including many passages omitted by Coleridge, whose notions of the duties of a translator were anything but rigorous. Among books of translation may well be included 'The New Purgatory, and Other Poems,' by Elizabeth Rachel Chapman (Scribner & Welford). These are by the author of a previous volume entitled 'A Comtist Lover, and Other Essays'; but the most valuable part of the present work is a careful paraphrase of cantos xxx-xxxi of the 'Purgatorio,' containing the meeting of Dante and Beatrice. We have received also some volumes of Fitzgerald and Omar Khayyám literature, which must be reserved for separate notice.

One of the most curious things in literature is that law which seems to provide the most ample and luxurious illustrations for the poorest books. This is shown, for example, in the illustrated editions of 'Geraldine, a Tale of the St. Lawrence' (Boston: Ticknor); and of 'Ringing Ballads, including Curfew Must Not Ring To-night,' by Rose Hartwick Thorpe (Boston: Lothrop). In the former case the reliance of the publishers must doubtless be placed on the value of the new edition as a guide-book; and in the latter on the school-room popularity of the principal poem, although there is certainly something odd in calling a series of ballads "ringing" when there is nothing that rings in any of them, save in that which announces that the curfew must not ring. Of a higher grade as to literary execution, but not, unfortunately, in respect to illustrations, is Mrs. Harriet Prescott Spofford's 'Ballads of Authors' (Boston: Lothrop), based on incidents in the lives of Goldsmith, Johnson, Milton, Cowper, Chatterton, and Shakspere. Even as to this we must complain that the author makes "Louvain" rhyme with "sang" (p. 13), and that the artist represents water-lilies as being wide open at midnight (p. 73). 'Old Homestead Ballads,' by Wallace Bruce (Harpers), is a volume much in the style of Will Carleton's, and perhaps destined to the same sort of popularity—a kind of chromolithograph success.

In America, when all else fails, there is always an interest in looking at the title-pages of new books and studying the geographical range represented. Thus, Miss Jessie Wilson Manning's 'The Passion of Life' (Cincinnati: Robt. Clarke & Co.) takes a new value when we learn that it was written at Chariton, Iowa; 'Letters from Colorado,' by H. L. Wason (Boston: Cupples & Hurd), has a guarantee of local coloring in the fact that it was composed in Wagon Wheel Gap, Rio Grande County; 'The Cabin in the Clearing,' by Benjamin S. Parker (Chicago: Kerr), has poems written in Indiana, Michigan, and Canada; 'A Lost Epic,' by William Canton, seems Canadian, and is dedicated to Queen Victoria (Boston: Lothrop). Of these volumes the last has by far the largest share of power and promise. We can hardly attribute either promise or performance to 'Songs of the Mexican Seas,' by C. H. (Joaquin) Miller (Boston: Roberts), whose mouthing strains have gained nothing in maturity, and have lost something of their novelty since they first charmed an English public that as yet knew not Cody or Sullivan. Mrs. Frances L. Mace, in 'Pine and Palm' (Boston: Ticknor), ranges from the mountains of Maine to the delights of "the New Italy"—which she finds in Southern California—and writes with a good deal of grace and vigor in both latitudes. Mr. David Skaats Foster in like manner takes us, in his 'The Tragedy of the Unexpected' (Putnam), from New Hampshire and its Wentworths to Florida and its Spanish traditions, but leaves his whimsical title unexplained. Gen. Alexander Hamilton publishes, in aid of the Sleepy Hollow Cemetery, at Tarrytown, N. Y., a volume of his tragedies and smaller poems (Dick & Fitzgerald); and the influence they will exert is not inappropriate to the proposed name of the cemetery. 'Songs of New Sweden,' by Arthur Peterson, U. S. N. (Philadelphia: Hart), is an effort that is commendable, if not wholly successful, to put into verse the legends of Swedish colonization on this continent. 'Songs of History: Poems and Ballads upon Important Episodes in American History,' by Hezekiah Butterworth (Boston: N. E. Publishing Co.), is a more elaborate effort in the same general direction; but it can only be said of the poet, as one sometimes hears it said of a favorite preacher, that he has beautiful texts. 'In Realms of God,' by James B. Kenyon (Cassell), has some good Oriental touches; and 'Wind Flowers,' by J. Luella Dowd Smith (Chicago: Kerr), some good German translations. 'Blooms of the Berry,' by Madison J. Caweine (Louisville: Morton), is exuberant and *Poesque*, but not without promise, if years of self-control could be brought to bear upon the author. In 'From Heart and Nature,' by Sarah Knowles Bolton and Charles Knowles Bolton (Crowell), we have the pleasant spectacle of a mother and son travelling together, studying together, and, finally, publishing their joint poems in one volume, the share contributed by each being dedicated to the other. 'Bird Talk,' by Mrs. A. D. T. Whitney (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.), is more graceful and less didactic than most of this author's productions, although the latter quality is not wholly wanting; the illustrations are exceedingly graceful also, but rather too suggestive of those accompanying Michelet's 'Birds' in its English dress.

One of the most attractive of these minor volumes of verse is doubtless 'Songs and Ballads,' by Fanny Raymond-Ritter (New York: F. W. Christern). This well-known musical writer here gives us music in verse, some of these poems having been already adapted as two-part songs, and others bearing on musical subjects. From a series relating to the great composers, and described by the author with unusual honesty as "mostly irregular," we transcribe one on Von Weber, which is both regular and good:

"Thou Oberon, lord of wonderhorn and wand!
Thou Prospero, from thought's isle-solitude
Encircling earth with music's Ariel-mood!
Thou Merlin of the mind's Broceliande,
The magic of thy bardic staff's command
With golden tone has every breath imbued
That floats o'er knightly field or demon wood,
Or gypsy heath or mermaid-haunted strand!
As cruel Viveliane to captive doom
Allured the enchanter through his own wild spell,
To death thy muse drew thee; as, ages long,
His voice pealed forth, prophetic, from that tomb,
So sounds, so shall sound, thine; an oracle
Foretelling destinies yet unknown to Song!" (P. 62.)

Best of all is a thin volume (Houghton, Mifflin & Co.) of the thoughtful and highly finished poems by Edward Rowland Sill, a name long familiar to the readers of our periodicals, and rendered none the less dear by his early death. The world has lost much in a writer who could draw such a thought as this from the tragedy of the Matterhorn:

TRUTH AT LAST.

"Does a man ever give up hope, I wonder—
Face the grim fact, seeing it clear as day?
When Bennen saw the snow slip, heard its thunder
Low, louder, roaring round him, felt the speed
Grow swifter as the avalanche hurled downward,
Did he for just one heart-throb—did he, indeed,
Know with all certainty, as they swept onward,
There was the end, where the crag dropped away?
Or did he think, even till they plunged and fell,
Some miracle would stop them? Nay, they tell
That he turned round, face forward, calm and pale
Stretching his arms out toward his native vale
As if in mute, unspeakable farewell,
And so went down. 'Tis something, if at last,
Though only for a flash, a man may see
Clear-eyed the future as he sees the past,
From doubt, or fear, or hope's illusion free." (P. 107.)

CHILDREN'S BOOKS.—III.

THE announcement of 'New Fairy Tales from Brentano, Told in English by Kate Freiligrath Kroeker' (A. C. Armstrong & Son) will have pleased all who had read the previous selection.

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Brentano's ingenious working over of old material amounts almost to freshness. The translator has not been careful of her wills and shalls, but in other respects her vivacious rendering is praiseworthy. We cannot approve the choice of such bloody stories as that of Frisky Wisky or the Myrtle Maiden. It is some years since J. R. Planché brought out his approximately complete version of Mme. d'Aulnoy's Fairy Tales. The Messrs. Routledge now send us an edition cleverly illustrated by Gordon Brown and Lydia F. Emmet. The book is adapted for older rather than younger children. There is humor and ideality in Dr. Weir Mitchell's 'Prince Little Boy, and Other Tales' (Lippincott); but they are unequal yoke-fellows. The humor is often intended for the parent, not the child, and sometimes verges upon flatness, so that we suspect our author's judgment in this direction. The illustrations are likewise dissimilar in degree as well as in kind, the best being very good. Dr. Mitchell for the first time acknowledges the authorship of some of these tales which have appeared in print before. One of his profession in Germany, Dr. Richard Leander, wielded "the delicate pen which alternated by night with the delicate probe and scalpel by day, and sought to relieve the sad web and woof of war with fringe of graceful fancies," producing 'German Fantasies by French Firesides' (Putnams). The translator, whose words we have quoted, has well expressed the merit of these fairy tales, which we heartily commend for their imaginativeness, playfulness, and refinement. They were written during the siege of Paris.

Two genuine Eastern tales in which the supernatural plays no part, have been reproduced from Malcolm's 'Sketches of Persia'—"one of the most agreeable books in the English language," vouches Prof. Child of Harvard, "though it seems scarcely to be known to the present generation of Americans." They compose 'Stories from the Persian: Abdûlla of Khorassan, Ahmed the Cobbler' (Cambridge: C. W. Sever), a little book, daintily printed, and sure to be acceptable to any child, except so far as it feeds in vain a desire for more such excellent moralities.

Joanna Spyri's 'Gritli's Children' (Boston: Cupples & Hurd) resembles other stories from the same hand in certain of its elements and properties, and introduces us once more to Switzerland for the sake of an invalid child. The movement is animated. There are many pathetic incidents, but the general effect of the book is cheering and salutary. The translation is excellent, as heretofore.

Mrs. Molesworth's 'Palace in the Garden' (Thomas Whittaker) is put in the mouths of children, but is really a novel for grown folks, and we cannot think it is improved for either audience by this treatment.

The one-syllable histories of Russia and Japan, prepared by Miss Helen Ainslee Smith for the Messrs. Routledge, show unusual dexterity in that sort of writing, being far less wooden and unidiomatic than most similar attempts have been. It still remains a question, however, whether so much labor is worth while, and whether more difficulties are not created than overcome, as, for example, when one uses the hard word "realm" for the easy word "kingdom."

We shall not subject Mr. Willis J. Abbot's 'Blue Jackets of 1812' (Dodd, Mead & Co.) to the scrutiny which would be prudent after the shortcomings of his 'Blue Jackets of 61. It is enough for us to express our regret that, at the close of the first century of the Republic, books should still be manufactured for the young which tend to keep alive the pernicious national antipathy of Americans for Englishmen. This feeling is distinctly fostered by the author in his present work, and it is aggravated by his presenting the British not only in the light of bullying, tyrannical armed enemies, but as exceptionally brutal in their treatment of impressed and imprisoned American seamen. The truth is, our ordinary naval discipline at that time, and for the next thirty years, had nothing to boast of over that of England. All the "glory" we won by sea in the war of 1812 was with the aid of debased and tortured men whose lot cannot be contemplated without a shudder. To conceal this fact is to hold up a falsehood to the young.

'Boys and Masters' (Longmans, Green & Co.), by A. H. Gilkes, is a story of life in an English public school. The author, who is head-master of Dulwich College, has chosen three or four boys as types, and traced their course through school in a series of sketches rather than in a connected tale. He has evidently a very clear understanding of boys, their ways of thinking and motives to action, and their conversations are natural and unconstrained, but he is not so successful in making the boys themselves real and lifelike to his readers. This is even truer of his portraits of the masters: their talk is well reported, though the meaning of what they say is not always apparent, but they remain shadows, with perhaps a single exception. The frequent use of schoolboy slang and allusions to local customs will, we fear, make it difficult at times for the American boy to understand. It is a thoughtful book, perhaps intended more for masters than for boys, and shows well what a master who is in thorough sympathy with his pupils can accomplish, and also the unconscious influence which an upright boy exerts upon his companions.

'Notes for Boys' (Chicago: A. C. McClurg & Co.), by an "Old Boy," is a series of short essays, somewhat after the manner of the Chesterfield Letters, written by an Englishman for the guidance of his son. He treats of a great variety of topics, from unselfishness, truth, and honesty to the choice of a profession and marriage, in a straightforward, wholesome way, which impresses one both with his good sense and with his clear comprehension of the temptations and dangers besetting a boy on his entrance to business life. All subjects are treated from the standpoint of an Englishman of the middle class who desires his son to be successful, not in the ordinary meaning of the word, but in the making the best use of his opportunities, both for himself and for those about him. In the matter of sports cricket is put first; while of football he says: "I do not think highly; the Rugby game especially is brutal," in which judgment we heartily agree with him. Medicine is placed at the head of the professions, the stage at the foot, and religion is regarded as the foundation of all morals, and is summed up as obedience to the Golden Rule. The author at times is needlessly egotistical, and exceptions could be taken to some of his statements. Occasionally his illustrations are not well chosen. The act of Nicholas in choosing a straight line for the railroad from St. Petersburg to Moscow was by no means a typical instance of a bad ambition. Many fathers, we are sure, would get useful hints from this book, while the boy who should follow its teachings would have a well-rounded character, and be a gentleman in the truest sense of the word, whatever his position in life.

In 'Ways for Boys' (Boston: D. Lothrop Co.), by F. T. Vance and others, youngsters are told in a concise but clear way, aided in many instances by diagrams, how to make kites, tents, menageries, boats, and snowshoes. There are also simple instructions for walking, skating, and tree culture—this last chapter, by John Robinson, being the best and most useful in the book.

Mrs. Mary Treat's 'My Garden Pets' (Lothrop) is a charming little book for old or young. It describes, in unaffected style, the author's observations of some phases of the garden life of certain spiders, ants, and wasps, and offers a few biographical details for one or two celebrated spiders, which may be useful to the future historian. Mrs. Treat gives very clear and interesting evidence of how both spiders and wasps can appreciate favors and kind treatment, even if they can hardly be said to be tamed. She seems, however, to have found the white-faced hornet refractory. The account of the life and raids of the slave-making ant and of the silent, but perfectly efficient, communication which takes place between individual ants, is extremely interesting. The illustrations, by E. H. Garrett, are mostly of inferior quality, coarse, confused, and muddy; but this may be partly due to the printer.

'Our Darlings' (Routledge) is a pretty oblong book of colored plates by "Mars." French designs they are, here reproduced with an English text, and we see the little ones at home, in town, in the country, at the sea-side, at play. Nobody could mistake them for Teutons and Anglo-Saxons, and they are most interesting as foils to the types we are most accustomed to. The drawing is skilful, and as graceful as conformity to French fashions will permit.

RECENT NOVELS.

The Bee-Man of Orn, and Other Fanciful Tales. By Frank R. Stockton. Charles Scribner's Sons.

The Hundredth Man. By Frank R. Stockton. The Century Co.

Fools of Nature. By Alice Brown. Boston: Ticknor & Co.

Love and Theology. By Celia Parker Woolley. Ticknor & Co.

Jack the Fisherman. By Elizabeth Stuart Phelps. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co.

Mohammed Benani: A Story of To-day. London: Sampson Low & Co.

Ismay's Children. By the author of 'Hogan, M. P.,' etc. Harper & Bros.

Tony, the Maid. By Blanche Willis Howard. Harper & Bros.

Country Luck. By John Habberton. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.

White Cockades. By Edward Irenæus Stevenson. Charles Scribner's Sons.

The Rose of Paradise. By Howard Pyle. Harper & Bros.

MR. STOCKTON'S imagination was off on a frolic when it committed him to the creation of 'The Bee-Man of Orn,' and of the many astonishing persons now closely confined in a volume with that "ugly, untidy, shrivelled, and brown" victim of the junior sorcerer. The most morose of critics could find little to growl at in the conduct of any man or beast or demon presented by the genius of the page. There is no reason why he should not, with a clear conscience, abandon himself to the will of the blithe spirit, and make the most of a merry hour. The method by which Mr. Stockton controls the vagaries of his familiar is now too well known to require comment. His work is gravely to demonstrate a grotesque or ridiculous proposition in plain and direct language. The writers of the famous fairy stories of all ages and climes knew the value of this method, and furious

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satirists have availed themselves of it at once to cloak their literal meaning and to poison their shafts. Mr. Stockton uses it neither to scourge evil nor to reform abuse, but with the wholly beneficent intention of provoking spontaneous laughter. In the story of "The Griffin and the Minor Canon," there is a hint of more serious purpose. Here the author seems to emulate those achievements of true humorists which are greater though not rarer than is the successful provision of pure amusement. Beneath the fantastic imagery it is not hard to discern the self-seeking, ungenerous, cowardly mob contrasted with the exceptionally modest, unselfish, and courageous individual. The griffin is a novel symbol for even-handed justice, encouraging the good and terrorizing the wicked. He is a creature of most upright soul, of beautiful discrimination and insight. We cannot but regret his demise, and wish that it were possible to resuscitate him. Here and there on the earth's surface may still be found a community which would be none the worse of a permanent griffin to persuade it, by wagging his red-hot tail, to honor and reverence a minor canon.

Perceiving in this charming story some ability to excite grave emotion, to stir contempt for what is contemptible, and admiration for what is admirable, one is naturally anxious to find the author developing positive power in this direction. Unfortunately, in longer works, with scope to show all there is in a man, Mr. Stockton fails to fulfil expectation, however modest, or to satisfy literary judgment, however lenient. Indeed, when we speak of Mr. Stockton as a novelist, we are obliged to imitate Mrs. Wilfer, who, having referred to Bella's "attractions," said she wished to be understood as using the word with the qualification that she meant it in no sense whatever. 'The Hundredth Man' confirms a suspicion suggested by 'The Late Mrs. Null,' that for the vocation of the contemporary novelist, which is to rouse the world to "sympathy with hopes and fears it heeded not," Mr. Stockton has no more capability than has a clever concocter of nonsense rhymes. Confronting the facts of life, the common motives, ends, and actions of common people, his genius is speedily worsted. Before this task the method of which he is master serves only to lead him hopelessly away from the result he wishes to achieve.

'The Hundredth Man' has two themes imperfectly wrought together. The first includes the series of events by which Mr. Harold Stratford proved himself to be the object of his solicitous search, a man preëminent in the fact that no other in a hundred is, or could have been, like him. Mr. Stratford certainly justifies the author's selection. With deliberate intention not to marry Miss Armatt, he separates her as deliberately from her lover. When Miss Armatt, dying for love of somebody, anybody, consents to live at the entreaty of a third man, Mr. Stratford, too late, discovers that he might have loved her. Considering the character ascribed by the author to Stratford and Miss Armatt, the situation in all its ramifications is obtrusively improbable nonsense. But, after all, the characters are only said to belong to them. The people have no real existence; they are lifeless figments of an imagination which is no longer a sprite, nothing but a poor, over-driven beast of burden. If Miss Armatt could be regarded seriously as a representative graduate of a woman's college, then the opponents of any sort of education for women might lift up their voices and rejoice. No adjective could be less appropriate than Tennyson's "sweet" prefixed to such a girl graduate as that. The secondary plot, which embraces the vicissitudes of Vatoldi's restaurant, is not irrational, but is prosy and dull, signifying nothing.

The people in 'Fools of Nature' do not belong to the social contingent of natural-born fools. They are of the multitude driven to indiscretion and folly by natural tendencies which override intelligence and dominate will. The fundamental conception is rather profound, affording opportunity for drawing refined distinctions, and for explaining much in conduct that is irreconcilable with obvious character. The author is not incompetent to develop her conception, but hardly realizes its possibilities. She has almost restricted her illustration of the force for folly that lies in the wisest of us to the fascination exercised by spiritualism over people of good instincts and some intellectual strength. Miss Brown's delineation of Dr. Ricker and exposure of his methods are good, but add nothing to knowledge of a subject of which the daily press keeps the public very fully informed. Much more interesting is the ethical problem presented to Sarah Ellis, when she learns that her fiancé has a divorced wife still living. This wife had wantonly betrayed and abandoned him, and therefore he was a free man, according to law and to Gospel. Miss Ellis's hesitation about marrying him is rather an instance of inherited prejudice than of desirable sensitiveness to requirements of personal morality. Accepting, however, the author's view, it is a pity, for purposes of clever workmanship, that she permits her heroine's decision to be dictated by a medium, again a pity that she does not devise a stronger expedient to compel her to leave her husband. In analysis of Sarah's mental perplexity, some unusually fine points are made, and one regrets that experience which precludes hearty sympathy with her self-sacrifice.

The intrinsic evidence of this clever story is that the author has had limited opportunities for observation. Sarah Ellis is the ideal, and far from a low one, of the New England woman novelist; she is a creature prone to distort into caricature the divine faces of duty, and love, and truth. The young man who marries Sarah is another ideal, far too elegant a person ever to make a boarding-house his habitat, even as he is too modern to indulge in "throes of ecstatic woman worship," or to experience visitations from impalpable substances which sweep upon him "like a soft pall covering the corpse of noisome passions." The New England village people, on the other hand, are realistic studies, well characterized and amusing, while the sketch of Linora, though verging on burlesque, hits hard at a feminine propensity for providing one's self with a romantic background.

'Love and Theology' presents some characters and situations not unlike those of 'Fools of Nature.' Rachel Armstrong is another Sarah Ellis, sturdier, sounder, yet more repellant, and probably a more accurate study of the type. She properly belongs to the days when the whole Christian world was subject to theological tyranny. To-day she could hardly be found outside of Scotland or New England. The character is not lovable, but, until the idea of religious duty shall have become extinct and the practice obsolete, it is one that will challenge interest and remain well worth a novelist's dissection. When Rachel's lover, Forbes, confesses that he has abandoned their mutual faith, and that he can never attempt to preach a doctrine that he does not believe, she renounces him instantly, absolutely. She experiences no doubt, scarcely an impulse of regretful tenderness. She bows to the will of God, but her soul is consumed with wrath and bitterness. This scene between the lovers is noticeably dramatic. Forbes having described the Bible as a work which must always "rank among the best literature," Rachel's horrified repetition of the word "literature" conveys more vividly the idea of her despair, of the sudden wreck of her life's best hopes, than could chapters of analytical description. In the early chapters, the character of Forbes is as fine and consistent as that of Rachel, and much more attractive. When he appears in the West preaching a free-and-easy sort of religion, he is neither comprehensible nor natural. He becomes vague as his creed, fantastic as the ritual devised by himself.

There are many other people in the novel, all unusually well thought out, and each possessing some point of interest. They are principally busied about love and theology, which absorbing affairs are, however, so wrought in with their daily life that the figures are well rounded. A little nonsense now and then would make them more agreeable, and might be borne, even at the expense of naturalness. The vivacity of Virginia Fairfax, and the author's neat, ironical humor, are small leaven for so much gravity. The end of the story is more conventional than logical. It is true that trial exposes to Rachel flaws in her own perfection, and assails the fortress of her self-righteousness. Nevertheless, her reconciliation with Forbes is equivalent to striking her colors—making unconditional surrender.

Miss Phelps's 'Jack the Fisherman' is a heart-rending tragedy drawn from real life—from life that is all reality, grim, pitiless, and most pitiful. Jack is an easy-going, good-tempered fellow. Poverty and drunkenness are his inheritance, and it is preordained that he shall follow the sea. Nothing short of a miracle could save such a Jack from crime and awful death in one shape or another. But no miracle is wrought for this Jack any more than for most of his kind. The nearest thing to a special Providence in his favor is the love of the girl he marries, which, as usual, not only fails to regenerate him, but gives him a legal opportunity utterly to degrade his manhood. Facts similar to those here employed have come under the observation of almost every one capable of observing. We all know that a large part of the world is very bad and wretched, and, when we think of it, prefer that all should be good and happy. Yet it is doubtful whether constant familiarity with the worst and the wretchedest has such power to make us feel the horror of the facts as have this artistic presentation and arrangement of them. Keen penetration into the thoughts and motives of a class but little understood by those more happily born, faithful observation of their miserable lives, a passion of sympathy and very remarkable literary force and finish, all go to make this short story one of the most valuable and striking contributions to the mass of realistic fiction. It is on a level with the realism of George Eliot and of Tolstoi, which is equivalent to saying that it has to do with the enduring realities, not with the trivial, the shallow, and the transitory.

Truly man is born unto sorrow as the sparks fly upward, not alone by the Puritan's stern and rock-bound coast, but also in the land of 'Mohammed Benani,'

> "Where the light wings of zephyr, oppress'd with perfume,
> Wax faint o'er the gardens of Gül in her bloom;
> Where the virgins are soft as the roses they twine,
> And all save the spirit of man is divine."

The spirit of man in the dominions of the Sultan of Morocco is indeed incredibly base, and there is little to choose between the cringing cowardice of the natives and the criminal oppression of them winked at, if not openly abetted, by representatives of foreign Christian.

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nations. The object of the author of this novel is a serious and noble one, and can be most succinctly stated by a quotation from his preface:

"It is to attract public attention to the evil adjustment of a mechanism which grinds not grain but human creatures between the upper and nether stone of Jewish and Moorish oppression—awful mills to which the placid breeze of consular support imparts continuous motion."

The consular support exposed in the pages of 'Mohammed Benani' is ostensibly Russian, but since no legation or consulate at Tingizirah flies the Russian flag, let him whom the shoe fits wear it. In the thorough and sympathetic development of his serious motive the author is perfectly successful, and his novel should be read with interest and profit by those who, in a general way, have the welfare of humanity at heart, and by those in high places who have power to mitigate the evils so forcibly presented to their notice. It follows almost inevitably that the work is not distinguished by the definite personal interest, the sharp characterization, necessary to insure its recognition as a fine example of fiction. One of the characters says, "If you want to be successful, never write a novel with a moral"; the importance of the author's moral has certainly impaired the success of his novel. The Sultan's envoy, Benani, is little more than a symbol, in burnoose and turban, for the throng of his outraged and despoiled fellow-countrymen. The sensitive, mysterious Eftomah is little more than an allegorical figure. She stands for that universal silence and reserve which the author declares to be the attitude of the East before the inquisitive, analytical, sceptical West. Paulovitch, the Russian humanitarian, and his English wife, Cassimir, the dragoman, and Werner, the Bavarian soldier, have more individuality, are more instinct with life, yet they, too, are one-sided, ever harping on one string. They make little impression except as instruments created to accomplish a mission. But, although the people are abstractions, the events are dramatic and well marshalled, while the setting of the scene leaves nothing to be desired in the way of local color and Oriental gorgeousness.

Remembering the dash, fun, and pathos of Miss Laffan's earlier novels, 'Ismay's Children' is opened with some assurance of coming enjoyment. Expectation is not bitterly disappointed, yet lacks something of satisfaction. The story is, of course, Irish, but the author's vision of Ireland is nearer to that of "A sad votarist in palmer's weeds" than to that of "Laughter holding both his sides." Ismay's children are the victims of an irregular, Scotch marriage, and not until Miss Laffan is nearly done with them is the validity of their father, Captain Mauleverer's, marriage with Ismay D'Arcy established. The reader is not invited to assist in a wild-goose chase after records and witnesses, but to take part in the daily life of an Irish village. Small farmers, shopkeepers, beggars, and the parish priest pass through the pages as naturally as through the shabby, dirty streets of Barrettstown, and their particularly slow transit is only a little more irritating in print than it is in reality. The shadow on the lives of the young Mauleverers seems to hang over all, and the author's interpretation of her characters is tinged with contemptuous bitterness. Her sense of their degradation is stronger than sympathy with their wrongs, and has benumbed her faculty for extracting humor out of the dullest of them. The figure of young Godfrey Mauleverer is romantic and sorrowful. Given his nature and circumstances, he must naturally become a patriot, the unsuspecting tool of self-interested, rascally conspirators. The end of Godfrey is inevitable; he had the character that never controls destiny. The pain inflicted by contemplation of the boy's gloomy career is partly mitigated by the happy fortune in love provided for his sister. Though one hardly sees why Marion Mauleverer should have commanded Lord Ansdale's devotion, it is quite clear that she did, and the author's manner of telling about it is exceptionally delicate and fresh.

'Tony, the Maid' is all but a bit of pure, light comedy. Tony is vivacious and piquant, drawn with admirable reserve. Nothing that Tony does or says could be changed without injury. She is a perfect reproduction of the soubrette of old comedy, with quite brilliant, original individuality. In the delineation of Tony's mistress, the author has unfortunately cast discretion to the winds. There is stuff in Miss Aurelia for refined satire on the ludicrous follies which such limp, timid women are specially liable to commit. It is a pity to see so good a conception ruined by exaggeration. Miss Aurelia's instant captivation by the theatrical boatman, Binder, strains probability. As for her subsequent behavior, it is too utterly imbecile for momentary belief. Mrs. High-Dudgeon is a person who owes her existence to the *esprit gaulois*. Many a year has come and gone since a French caricaturist invented this figure of massive stupidity and snobbery, and called it a British matron. At least two generations of caricaturists, with pen and pencil, have pegged away on the same lines, and a large proportion of society is now firmly convinced that the lady is a genuine and common production of the British Isles. Miss Howard's rendering is coarse and remote from nature, but that will not hinder the knowing from protesting that it is the most lifelike and excruciatingly funny thing imaginable.

If Diogenes Teufelsdröckh could step down to earth out of vast aerial space, Mr. Habberton would give him some points on the "influence," if not on "the origin of clothes." These two great cause-and-effect philosophers would embrace with laughter and with tears, and 'Country Luck' would ever after (by mutual consent) appear as a corollary to 'Sartor Resartus.' Mr. Habberton's rustic hero rises in New York social and business life with a speed and brilliancy comparable only to that of a rocket. He is an honest, industrious, and capable youth, but his historian, profoundly conscious of the inefficacy of such qualities for realizing worldly success, gives them only civil recognition. Clothes! is Philip Hayne's "Excelsior"; Clothes! his "Open, sesame." Before leaving his pastoral home, his aged father counsels him —Put clothes on your back. Arrived in New York, he sees nothing but clothes, dreams only clothes, and, once arrayed in a clothier's first-class business suit, has his foot planted on a rung of the ladder which he is to run up with astonishing celerity. Without presuming to dispute an argument sustained by eminent authority, we may refer to some matters of minor importance, on which Mr. Habberton's observation is so faulty that almost are we tempted to discredit the clothes dogma. He seems to imagine that his Mrs. Tramlay and her daughter are ladies. There are saleslades in America and washer-ladies, but, when Mr. Habberton insists that there are Tramlay-ladies, he abuses the good word too severely, and must be advised to pray for some power of discrimination, together with a better understanding of the English tongue. Mr. Tramlay is a very good specimen of what may be called the rough-and-ready, cash-down business man, but the leisurely Mr. Marge would be most at home in the rôle of "walking gentleman" at a third-rate theatre.

'White Cockades' is an episode of Prince Charlie's wanderings after the defeat of Culloden. His fictitious escape from Windelstrae Manor, and "bloody Cumberland's" brutal subordinates, is no more wonderful than were many of his actual adventures during the six months when he was hunted like a wild beast through the Western Isles and Highlands. The fidelity of the Master of Windelstrae and of his young son is but one instance out of hundreds of a loyalty and devotion unparalleled in history. Mr. Stevenson tells the story simply and without waste of words, but has not quite been able to project himself into the spirit of the time and people. Though his work lacks the personal enthusiasm of his namesake's 'Kidnapped,' and has not, like that, the very smell of the heather, it has certainly the merit of sympathetic imagination.

Traditional belief in the diabolic wickedness of the mariners who flew the "Black Roger," significantly adorned with white skull and cross-bones, is comfortably sustained by Mr. Pyle's story of 'The Rose of Paradise.' The pirates who interrupted the voyage to India of the good ship *Cassandra*, in the year 1720, are an unexceptionable gang of cut-throats, appropriately attired in Turkish trousers and sashes of varied hue. The gentlemen, from a piratical point of view, are such good form that Captain John Mackra's adventure with them should thrill more than it does. The archaic form and spelling adopted by the author fails of its object, which undoubtedly is to lend vivacity to his narrative. It is forced and artificial, detracting very much from the inherent spirit of the events and vigor of the characters.

RECENT LAW PUBLICATIONS.

THE development of strikes within the last few years has brought into prominence a very singular part of the criminal law, the doctrine of conspiracy—a doctrine which, in the portentous breadth of its ordinary statement, makes the mere *agreement* between two or more persons to do an unlawful act a crime. It is at best a dangerous doctrine, but it is not quite so bad as that. Fortunately it was made the subject of an admirable little English treatise in 1873 by R. S. Wright, now Solicitor to the Treasury. After having examined all the cases from the earliest times, the author set himself to make a brief statement of the way the law had developed. It was a summary treatment of the subject, but one full of interest and instruction, really indispensable to any lawyer or judge who would deal intelligently with this very perplexed topic. It is, then, a good service which the Blackstone Publishing Company have done in reprinting Wright on the 'Law of Criminal Conspiracies and Agreements.' They have also done well in adding to it as a supplement a presentation of the doctrine of the American cases by Hampton L. Carson of the Philadelphia Bar. Mr. Carson's addition bears no comparison, in point of thorough and skilful workmanship, with that of the English writer; but it will be found very useful, and it shows signs of a practised hand. The subject of "Strikes and Boycotts" is dealt with at length. Forms of indictments and the provisions of the Federal statutes and those of the States are added. The book is one to be heartily commended.

The second edition of Mr. James Schouler's useful 'Treatise on the Law of Bailments, including Carriers, Innkeepers, and Pledge' (Boston: Little, Brown & Co.) "is now stretched to the utmost limit possible for a single volume"; and the author has made "especial effort . . . to present a full and lucid expo-

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sition of the law of carriers." We observe two new chapters under this last head, on "Connecting Carriers" and "Transportation of Baggage," but look in vain for any mention of the familiar title of "Inter-State Commerce," a strange omission. In Mr. Schouler's § 544 he states a doctrine which is sound on principle and authority; but it is singular to see it so absolutely said, just as if the famous "Exeter Carrier" had never lived and lorded it in the English courts. Mr. Schouler is right, we doubt not, in treating carriers in connection with the general topic of bailments.

Mr. William Henry Rawle's 'Practical Treatise on the Law of Covenants for Title' (Little, Brown & Co.), first published in 1852, has reached its fifth edition. It is, as lawyers well know, one of our best law books—learned, clean-cut, discriminating, thoroughly well adapted to its purpose as a "practical treatise." And it is also one of the few law books which a legal scholar can read with pleasure, for it opens with skill a difficult and intricate subject. In preparing this edition the text is divided into numbered sections, and this, for purposes of convenience, is perhaps well; but some readers, in law as in gospel, probably find their minds teased a good deal by these unfortunate figures. The author has added many cases to his list of citations, and yet the size of the volume is considerably less than in the fourth edition—a result which has been accomplished by a great deal of careful labor. The main lines of the book are unchanged, but here and there in a quiet way, and in a few places more noticeably, as in the tenth chapter, touching covenants running with the land, and the eleventh, as to the operation of covenants for title by way of estoppel (see the summing up in § 265), much thought and conscientious work has gone into this new edition.

'Commentaries on the Law of Receivers,' by Charles Fisk Beach, jr. (L. K. Strouse & Co.), is a portly volume, having "particular reference to the application of that law to railway corporations, but including in detail a complete consideration of the whole subject." "That I have not overestimated the magnitude or importance of the subject," says the author in his preface, "appears from . . . the fact that within the past twelve years no less than three hundred and ninety-two railways, representing nearly forty thousand miles of road, and having a capital stock and bonded indebtedness of more than twenty-three hundred and ten millions of dollars, have been sold in the United States in foreclosure proceedings." That is an astonishing statement. Of course, in such a novel state of facts the law has developed in some proportionate degree. The courts of Chancery have had to learn how to become an engine for carrying on a vast and complicated business. One curious particular of this development is treated in the chapter on "Receivers' Certificates"—that singular, plausible security which the courts have authorized and supported, "ostensibly for the preservation of the property, and in the interest of the bondholders, but, it is believed, in a majority of the cases in which they are issued, to the hindrance and delay of a prompt foreclosure, to the impairment of the bondholders' security, and to the scandal of the courts of equity." If courts, however, must go into such business, they must also attend to it—and the theory of raising money on the security of the property which they hold, in order to keep it up, seems to be sound. That matter was all argued out in Massachusetts early in the last decade, and in Alabama and elsewhere later. But one need not differ from Mr. Beach as to the practical results of the resort to this highly dangerous expedient. It is interesting to notice what the author quotes from Professor Pollock on this particular matter: "The thing treated of does not exist on this side." That would be more than could be said as to bondholders who have suffered from them—*that* thing exists in England. Mr. Beach's book appears to be a very good one indeed, prepared with judgment and conscientious labor, and written with skill.

'The Doctrine of Cy Pres as Applied to Charities,' by Robert Hunter McGrath, jr. (Philadelphia: T. & J. W. Johnson & Co.), is a neat and very good piece of work, which obtained the Meredith Prize at the University of Pennsylvania, in 1887. It is clear, orderly, excellently well stated; and the author has well supported the last sentence in his book: "The complete growth of a theory founded in excessive religious zeal, pushed to great lengths, but outlasting its cause, and reduced again to limits productive of benefit to mankind, is a spectacle by no means devoid of interest."

Professor Marshall D. Ewell (who is "M. D." as well as "LL. D.") publishes a little 'Manual of Medical Jurisprudence for the Use of Students at Law and of Medicine' (Students' Series, Little, Brown & Co.). "It does not claim," says the author, "to be more than a careful compilation, from what seemed to be the best authorities, of the leading principles of the science." But he adds that it is believed to contain "the substance of all the principles stated in the more voluminous works"—excepting only as regards the two topics of Insanity and Toxicology, which are very shortly dealt with. For the purposes of legal study, books of this class seem to us to have little value. They may be serviceable to a student of medicine; and yet, even for him, the value of this particular work is seriously lessened by the author's resort to a singular expedient for the saving of space—the omission to cite authorities.

"The Science of Law, according to the American Theory of Government," by E. L. Campbell (Jersey City: F. D. Linn & Co.), proceeds upon the view that "the principles of justice are . . . a definite body of immutable principles and hence constitute a true science. . . . We claim that the Intuitional theory is the true one—that there is a law of natural justice." "Our fathers . . . swept away all this political fog at once, and anchored their system in the living rock of God's great law of natural justice—covering all public as all private relations." In reaching details the author goes so far as to say: "Consistency in theory would require that any law which violated a well-settled principle of natural justice should be held to be null and void. And this, to an extent not clearly defined, is the established doctrine, though veiled. . . . It is a common thing for our courts to overthrow duly enacted laws for this reason, even when the principle violated is not distinctly formulated in the Constitution of State or nation." Now that is not at all a common thing—indeed, it is never done. Rather that is true which Mr. Justice Gray has said in Quincy's Reports, pp. 528, 529: "It is believed there is no instance, except one case in South Carolina [1 Bay 252], in which an act of the Legislature has been set aside by the courts, except for conflict with some written constitutional provision." A man must not be misled by the occasional moral fervor of a judge when he is "off duty," as it were, and is merely uttering general expressions. The author of this book has made a serious and thoughtful endeavor to analyze and arrange the fundamental conceptions of law and government, and his attempt is worthy of attention and respect. But it seems to have in it quite too much of the theologic spirit to permit a first-rate handling of the subject.

The fifth volume of the Reports of Decisions rendered by the Supreme Court of the Hawaiian Islands, compiled by William Foster (Honolulu: *Hawaiian Gazette* Co.), has curious matter in it. It includes cases from July, 1883, to October, 1886, and preserves in an Appendix the latest Constitution of these islands, promulgated in July of the present year. This document is modelled on those of our States, but has provisions adapting it to a monarchy. It would please some of our people, for it "has God" in it, to use the current phrase. It begins thus: "God hath endowed all men," etc., etc. Under Art. 70, the judges may be required by the Executive and the Legislature to give opinions on "important questions of law." Several of these opinions are given, of which one, on the "Segregation of Lepers," answers the inquiring Legislature (1) that it is not a crime to be afflicted with leprosy; but (2) the confinement of lepers is not contrary to the Constitution; and (3) the existing statute (1865) to that effect is constitutional. In one case the court takes judicial notice "that many Chinese . . . are engaged throughout the islands in commercial business in a small way." The interminable telephone litigation is going on there, so that now they may be said to have all the blessings of the most favored nations. The general law seems to be largely the same as ours, and our State reports are freely cited. Now and then one's mind gets into a pucker, much as if he were reading the Scotch reports, with their outlandish words; *e. g.*, "The Ili of Piopio, being an *ili kupono*, is not subservient to the Ahupuaa of Waiakea, by which it is surrounded; and the lessee [thereof] . . . has no rights as a hoaaina of the ahupuaa," etc. This particular proposition is not supported by cases from Barber's Reports and Howard's Practice and the like, but only, perhaps, because it seemed an obvious one, no authorities at all being cited. There are instances of search warrants for opium, issued against Chinese. And by the way, under the Constitution, it is only "male residents . . . of Hawaiian, American, or European birth or descent," that can vote for Representatives or "Nobles"; the Asiatic is left out. In the case of Awa vs. Horner, it is for the first time held that a gift of land to two or more persons creates tenancy in common and not joint tenancy. "The common law is not in force in this kingdom, *proprio vigore*. . . . There are no feudal tenures." And finally, at p. 573, is a case of considerable interest—"In the matter of John W. McCarthy"—in which it is held that the Government may rightfully surrender a fugitive from justice from California, on the requisition of the Governor of that State. The obvious objection had been made that the requisition should have come from the Government at Washington. To this the Court says: "However this may be, and without binding the Court to decide as we now do in any case which may hereafter come before it, we hold, in the case now before us, that the Minister Resident of the United States having requested the intervention of his Majesty's Government, the ground taken for the petitioner is not sustainable." The Arguelles case is cited in another part of the opinion, and it is intimated that the Government may surrender fugitives, in the absence of a treaty, at its discretion.

THE WORDSWORTHS AND THE BEAUMONTS.

Memorials of Coleorton. Being Letters from Coleridge, Wordsworth and his Sister, Southey, and Sir Walter Scott, to Sir George and Lady Beaumont of Coleorton, Leicestershire, 1803 to 1834. Edited, with In-

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troduction and Notes, by William Knight, University of St. Andrews. 2 vols. Boston: Houghton, Mifflin & Co. 1887.

THESE memorials remind us how incomplete, notwithstanding the varied sources of our knowledge, is the biographical record of the famous Lake School, and it is a pleasure to observe that they come as a kind of *avant-courrier* of the lives of Coleridge and Wordsworth, and of Thomas Poole of Nether Stowey, now in preparation by competent hands. It is proper to remark that several of the letters are not new, though Mr. Knight does not state the fact; the important passages of the Wordsworth letters are already accessible in the 'Life of Wordsworth' by his brother Christopher—in fact, all that is really of value in shedding light on the character and genius of the poet is there. But reprinting them in connection with the remainder of Sir George Beaumont's literary correspondence has made an enviable memorial for him and his delightful country seat at Coleorton.

Sir George appears to have been one of the most agreeable of men. He had not merely high breeding, but humanity of disposition, delightful companionableness, and the refinement that springs from artistic pursuits. Haydon accuses his manners of a want of moral courage. "What his taste dictated to be right, he would shrink from asserting if it shocked the prejudices of others or put himself to a moment's inconvenience," was the fault that this critic had in mind; but this is only to class him with the men who do not think that the truth is always to be spoken in society, and prefer tact to an aggressive egotism. Sir Humphrey Davy notices especially that he was a "remarkably *sensible* man, which I mention because it *is* somewhat remarkable in a painter of genius who is at the same time a man of rank and an exceedingly amusing companion." Southey was struck by the apparent happiness of his life and the absence of any reference to afflictions or anxieties that he may have experienced, and says that he "had as little liking for country sports as for public business of any kind," being absorbed by art and nature; and, to add Scott's kind words of him in his diary, that excellent judge writes: "Sir George Beaumont's dead; by far the most sensible and pleasing man I ever knew. Kind, too, in his nature, and generous—gentle in society, and of those mild manners which tend to soften the causticity of the general London tone of persiflage and personal satire. I am very sorry—as much as it is in my nature to be—for one whom I could see but seldom." This is a concert of praise which it is a pleasure to associate with the name of the man who was, chiefly, the founder of the National Gallery in Trafalgar Square.

He was a friend of the artists of his time, and a patron of Wilkie and Haydon when they needed aid. In the latter's autobiography there is a bright account of a fortnight's visit paid by these two to Coleorton, which brings the interior life there more vividly to the eye than anything in the letters which fill this volume, though it borrows something from the unconscious humor of the narrator, who always fills the scene with himself in the leading part. One pauses to note a characteristic sentence of the incorrigible beggar in which he breaks out with the indignant remark: "All my friends were always advising me what to do instead of advising the Government what to do for me." Sir George, however, had other friends, and most noteworthy of all, Wordsworth, of whom he first heard from Coleridge. Before meeting him, understanding that they wished to live in the same neighborhood, he bought and presented to Wordsworth the little property of Applethwaite near Greta Hall, Coleridge's abode. Wordsworth never used the ground for the purpose for which it was given, but it remained in his possession. From this time, 1803, a close friendship grew up between the family at Grasmere and that at Coleorton, grounded upon common interests and cemented with mutual exchanges of kindness and regard, so that it survived until the death of Sir George and Lady Beaumont, herself an excellent woman, of whom Crabb Robinson wrote: "She is a gentlewoman of great sweetness and dignity, I should think among the most interesting persons in the country."

When these memorials begin, in 1803, Coleridge was most intimate with the Beaumonts. This was the period just previous to his voyage to Malta, when he was sick in body and mind. The letters he wrote are very painful to read. They are characterized by the complaining and absorbing egotism of the invalid, unfortified by patience, resolution, or even self-respect. The ravages of disease in its physical aspects, the laying bare of bodily conditions and symptoms of decay, would be in themselves intolerably disagreeable, but it is much worse to be obliged to attend at the sick-bed of the mind; and in Coleridge's case the internal weakness of the spirit excites the greatest pity, and this feeling nearly passes involuntarily into disgust. The sensibility of his nervous organization was acute. He speaks of times when, as he was accusing himself of insensibility through incapacity to feel, his "whole frame has gone *crash*, as it were." Under the excitement of his emotions, he dissolves in weakness; the spectacle is not a pleasant one; there is something almost ignoble in such loss of self-control. When Wordsworth recited to him, if one can fancy such a thing, the entire thirteen books on the growth of his own mind, in 1807, Coleridge composed a poem, not very coherent or noble, though personally pathetic, in which he says that when he rose from his seat, he "found himself in prayer." It was apparently not an unusual termination to the *accès* of emotion, and it occurred more than once in his relations with the Beaumonts. The mention of it, however, in his correspondence with them, offends one, not in itself, but by the manner of it; indeed, the manner of his earlier letters is indescribable. Their sentiment is so tremulous and overwrought with fever that they resemble maundering; they are "sicklied o'er" with mental disease, and belong to the pathology of genius. A person in such a state could not fail to be a subject of deep concern, a burden of anxiety always, to his friends. In the earlier years, and in some degree throughout the entire period, Coleridge, whenever he appears, darkens the page.

Perhaps the serenity of Wordsworth's home at Grasmere gains by the miserable contrast. Thither Coleridge came for invigoration; thither, when he finally separated from his wife, he brought or sent the children; and when he could not or would not retire to the hospitality and pleasant companionship of the household where he found the feminine sympathy which he had failed of in his own marriage, Wordsworth would set out to visit him with moral support and cheer. Coleridge is the episode, but Grasmere is the real subject of this correspondence. It is substantially the record of the friendliness subsisting between the Wordsworths and Beaumonts. The common interest which united Wordsworth and Sir George was the love of nature. Landscape was the subject of their thoughts. Sir George painted it, Wordsworth poetized it; in the life of both it was a permanent resource to which they constantly resorted, and they liked to blend their work in this solvent—the pictures of the one becoming a text for the poems of the other, and vice-versa. The large place which natural scenery held in Wordsworth's life is abundantly illustrated in the course of the letters, as one would expect; but the interest he felt in landscape gardening, in modifying wild nature, and his ideas regarding the methods and aims of the art, are brought even more to the front because of the part he had in planning the grounds at Coleorton. Sir George rebuilt at Coleorton, and in laying out the winter garden in particular, he had frequent recourse to the taste of his friend; and as Wordsworth was that year occupying the old farmhouse on the estate, the business of thinking out and overseeing this work was at once diversion and restful employment amid his poetic labors. He wrote at great length on the subject to Lady Beaumont, and laid before her an elaborate plan, full of ivy, holly, juniper, yews, open sunshine glades, flower-borders, an alley, a bower, a spray-fountain, a quarry, a distant spire, a pool with two gold-fish, a vine-clad old cottage, and other things which are artificial enough in the reading, but in reality seem remarkably well fitted to mingle the charm of cultivation with the wildness of the evergreens, and make a sheltering retreat where the life of nature would linger longest in autumn and revive earliest in the warm sun.

"Painters and poets," he wrote, "have had the credit of being reckoned the fathers of English gardening," and he felt thus in the line of succession in the art. It is most interesting to observe how he obtains suggestions from the poets, and makes their Pegasus plough his field. He was, of course, opposed to undue interference with nature and the deformity it occasions, and also to the ostentation of the wealth or station of the owner. "It is a substitution of little things for great when we would put a whole country into a nobleman's livery," he says with spirit, and, declaring that the laying out of grounds is a liberal art not unlike poetry and painting, he goes on to protest against the monopoly of nature by the great ones of the earth, upon high æsthetic grounds. "No liberal art," he says, "aims merely at the gratification of an individual or a class; the painter or poet is degraded in proportion as he does so. . . . If this be so when we are merely putting together words or colors, how much more ought the feeling to prevail when we are in the midst of the realities of things. . . . What, then, shall we say of many great mansions with their unqualified expulsion of human creatures from their neighborhood, happy or not—houses which do what is fabled of the upas tree—that they breathe out death and desolation?" These strictures on the aristocratic handling of land he continues for some pages in an interesting advocacy of æsthetic communism—still a suggestive topic. This sense of the beauty and grandeur of nature as a universal boon, the desire to humanize the landscape without robbing it of its own essential character or of the minor charms of its native wildness, and a great delight in his own practical work of improving rubbish heaps, old walls, and broken ground into a winter retreat of sunshine and evergreens and red-berried vines, with nooks and views fit for a poet's walk, are the qualities that still give interest to those half-dozen letters about planting a waste acre of land.

It would be only too easy to select passages to show Wordsworth's tastes, the choices he made, the ensemble he projected, and so on; but the subject is a minor one. On the other hand, his genius, in which susceptibility to nature was

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so dominating a principle, seldom finds expression in the prose of his letters with anything like the clearness and purity of his poems. There is one extract, however, which we cannot refrain from giving of a city scene from the country poet:

"I left Coleridge at seven o'clock on Sunday morning, and walked towards the city in a very thoughtful and melancholy state of mind. I had passed through Temple Bar and by St. Dunstan's, noticing nothing, and entirely occupied with my own thoughts, when, looking up, I saw before me the avenue of Fleet Street, silent, empty, and pure white, with a sprinkling of new-fallen snow, not a cart or a carriage to obstruct the view, no noise, only a few soundless and dusky foot-passengers here and there. You remember the elegant line of the curve of Ludgate Hill in which the avenue would terminate, and beyond, and towering above it, was the huge and majestic form of St. Paul's, solemnized by a thin veil of falling snow. I cannot say how much I was affected at this unthought-of sight in such a place, and what a blessing I felt there is in habits of exalted imagination. My sorrow was controlled and my uneasiness of mind—not quieted and relieved altogether—seemed at once to receive the gift of an anchor of security."

This is not poetry, but it is from the same pen as the sonnet on Westminster Bridge.

Besides this taste for landscape, there is, of course, a special interest taken by both friends in what poetry Wordsworth was composing from time to time, but the correspondence contains very little that is purely literary. We find Wordsworth again expatiating on the "awful truth that there neither is, nor can be, any genuine enjoyment of poetry among nineteen out of twenty of those persons who live, or wish to live, *in the broad light of the world*"—that is, in society; and we hear him again define his aims—"to console the afflicted; to add sunshine to daylight, by making the happy happier; to teach the young and the gracious of every age to see, to think, and feel, and therefore become, more actively and securely virtuous," etc. We come, too, upon the calm and patient confidence in his own immortality, a serene foreknowledge of how the matter would end, though we are sometimes perplexed and amused by some dark spots in his prevision, as when he says that "the people would love Peter Bell" if only the critics would let them. It appears, too, that these poets were discreet in their confidential criticism of each other, and by no means blind to faults. Wordsworth notices that in Southey's verse, notwithstanding picturesqueness and romance and a minor touch or two, "there is nothing that shows the hand of the great master"; and Coleridge, with all his adoration for Wordsworth, even when declaring that he regarded the tale of the ruined cottage in the "Excursion" as "the finest poem in our language, comparing it with any of the same or similar length," could yet put his finger on the very centre of weakness in Wordsworth. "I have sometimes fancied," he says, "that having by the conjoint operation of his own experiences, feelings, and reason, *himself* convinced *himself* of truths which the generality of people have either taken for granted from their infancy, or at least adopted in early life, he has attached all their own depth and weight to doctrines and words which come almost as truisms or commonplace to others."

One finds, however, very little literature in the volumes. What there is, as we have remarked, is mostly old. Their intellectual element is quite secondary to their friendliness. The notes from Southey are mostly solicitations of influence with Government, with the exception of two very characteristic and admirable letters of condolence, written to Lady Beaumont after Sir George's death, from which the Christian temper of the writer receives fair illustration. Sir Walter's are the missives of a friendly and cultivated acquaintance, superficial and amiable, and there are very few of them. Coleridge's later letters are somewhat heavy with the weight of his dulled and bulky mind. Wordsworth's, and those of his sister Dorothy, make the valuable portion of the collection, and, as will have been gathered, they are composed of the ordinary scenes and incidents of a very quiet domestic life, with the details of a journey now and then, or something about a visitor or a birth or a new poem under way—glimpses of the home at Grasmere. The tastes of Sir George and Wordsworth imported into the correspondence the very great element of a living love of nature, and occasional remarks on art and poetry. Those who care to know only what is conspicuous, original, and exceptional in the life of genius will not find anything essential in the volumes; those who are interested and pleased to observe how genius bears itself in those relations of life which it has in common with ourselves, will find pleasant leisurely reading; while to the student of literature they make Coleorton a name with Grasmere and Rydal Mount and Greta Hall.

The Sportsman's Paradise; or, the Lake Lands of Canada. By B. A. Watson, A.M., M.D. Philadelphia: J. B. Lippincott Co.

THERE is in Canada, northwest from the Georgian Bay, and between it and the Ottawa River, a vast tract of wild country filled with streams and lakes and abounding in fish and game. This has been the scene of Mr. Watson's exploits, and his description of it is interesting and trustworthy. He gives a minute account of several excursions of considerable length made by him, the last being the most prolonged; and while he is at times unnecessarily diffuse and his narrative is disconnected, he conveys, on the whole, a very good idea of the troubles and pleasures of life in the woods carried on in situations requiring patience, endurance, and self-reliance. His most important trip was made from Magnetewan after moose, and lasted into November. It was full of hardship, for which success amply repaid the party. A number of deer and several moose were shot, and Dr. Watson and his guide lost more by poor shooting and ignorance of the habits of the animals than they got, their misfortunes and blunders being faithfully chronicled. While the author never hesitates to hold himself up as a true sportsman, he lays no claim to the infallibility in aim and woodcraft which is the besetting sin of writers on kindred subjects, and his modesty in this regard gives the reader faith in the substantial truthfulness of his book.

There is, besides, another vein of entertainment that pervades the whole, and that is the medical attitude from which the Doctor surveys his field of operations. Chapter i. contains several pages on the physical advantages of the chase and the evils of a sedentary life—especially "dyspepsia, insomnia, and hypochondriasis." It says in italics: "It may also be boldly asserted at this point, without entering into any long inquiry bearing on the etiological or pathological conditions of these morbid states, that the man who will engage in the chase with all the enthusiasm of a true sportsman, and will follow the same a few months, will certainly find more benefit from this course of procedure than could possibly be obtained by the most systematic restrictions in the use of food." Dr. Watson believes that two maladies from which he suffered, viz., diabetes and glucosuria, owed their relief to his wild life. He records the wounds of defunct animals in a most professional manner; *e. g.*, a moose was killed by "a shot a little behind the base of his skull, which factured the upper portion of the vertebral column and likewise wounded the medulla oblongata, which injury was followed by instantaneous death." One found dead in the woods "had evidently suffered with severe suppurative arthritis, which was complicated by a necrosis of all the bones entering into this joint" (the knee). Captain Ross, Dr. Watson's guide, is most happily described through several chapters. As he paddles a canoe, "the sight is a grand one, and called to mind the impetuous charge of a squadron of cavalry in war time." The effect on the Captain of seeing a moose is thus stated: "His eyes were fixed, and glared intently on the game he had just discovered. His lips were tightly closed, his teeth completely hidden. The muscles of his face exhibited the most intense excitement and resolute determination. His body was as immovable as a statue," etc.

Another interesting character is Mr. Mildenberger, a German photographer who went on the moose-hunting trip and was lost in the woods for nearly two days. His dream during the night he is lost is thus italicized:

"He imagines that he is fleeing rapidly before the enemy, and we know that he is restless and constantly moving. Behold him now! His eyes are widely open, he glares wildly about him; still he slumbers. In this disturbed sleep he sees the merciless savage peering from behind every forest-tree and bush upon him. He calls aloud, 'What shall I do? I am already surrounded.' He now beholds the brutal, bloody, and fiendish Iroquois Indians creeping stealthily upon him. They are in full war paint and armed with their barbarous instruments of war. This is their moment of triumph over a poor defeated Huron. They have risen to their feet and now rush forward upon our sleeping soldier. The instruments of death are already uplifted, an unearthly yell is heard, which echoes from lake to lake."

Strange as it may seem, the photographer survives and is rescued.

The "story of a romantic wedding and the honeymoon" (pp. 88 *et seq.*) can be highly recommended, though Dr. Watson says: "This story, involving a marriage and a wedding tour, is only a wildflower plucked from our pathway through the wilderness, presented to the reader for momentary gratification." There is enough fine writing in the book to please such of its readers as may not have special fondness for the solid and evidently reliable narrative of sport and adventure it contains; and Dr. Watson is to be thanked for an important contribution to the sporting literature of the country. The volume is copiously illustrated and handsomely manufactured.

English Colonies in America. Volume II. The Puritan Colonies in two volumes. By J. A. Doyle, M. A., Fellow of All Souls' College, Oxford. Henry Holt & Co. 1887. 2 vols., 8vo, pp. 333 and 416.

MR. DOYLE'S second volume, or rather part, has overflowed into two volumes, disarranging so far the symmetry of the plan which began with his volume on Virginia, Maryland, and the Carolinas. As the present section embraces the history of all the colonies of New England till the date of Gov. Joseph Dudley of Massachusetts, it is not surprising that more space was required. Not only are the events more numerous and interesting, but the authorities increase in number, weight, and vitality. Bradford, Winthrop, Hubbard, Williams, and Sewall are authorities without a rival in the annals of our other colonies. Moreover, New England is conceded to be the field in which great social problems have been worked out; and for centuries to come the story of the evolution of popu-

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lar government in these colonies will be studied by all who use the English tongue.

Mr. Doyle has made an admirable summary of the history of the Puritan colonies in the seventeenth century. He has gone over the field so often travelled in part by our specialists, and so thoroughly explored as a whole by Dr. Palfrey, and he gives us an admirable résumé of the facts and of the impressions made by them upon the mind of an educated Englishman. He has not contributed a single new fact of importance, and few such remain to be discovered, but he has made a diligent and careful use of the immense collections already in print. Once in a while we detect an expression which shows a lack of entire familiarity with the geography of New England, but generally speaking he gives the true local coloring, and correctly interprets the real value of the events described. If to the knowledge he has obtained from the general writers and the essayists, he could add a familiarity with the vast literature comprised in our town histories, and a personal acquaintance with our forms of government as now in constant use, he would be equipped to write a history unexcelled by any extant or perhaps imaginable.

These two volumes are, for their size, the best of which we have any knowledge to place in the hands of any young person desirous of really knowing the subject. They are attractive in style, full of careful research, impartial in judgment, and doubly valuable as giving the opinions of one not blinded to our faults by ties of birth or education. That the conclusions at which the author arrives are substantially those of our best native historians, is evidence that the truth has at last been reached in regard to this subject, and that we may hereafter reason from sound premises upon the effect which Puritanism has had, and is continuing to have, upon our national life.

Abbeys and Churches of England and Wales: Descriptive, Historical, Pictorial. Edited by the Rev. T. G. Bonney, D. Sc., LL.D., F. R. S., Professor of Geology in University College, London. Cassell & Co. 1887. Quarto. xvi-280.

THE appearance of this book is not in its favor. It has much the look of the merest "parlor-table" trifle; and that without special beauty or daintiness, without or within. The numerous illustrations, scattered about the pages in the hateful, pseudo-picturesque modern fashion, are not attractive upon a first or even a second look. But the more patient or more hopeful student will be gratified by finding a vast deal of sound information and really shrewd criticism in these numerous essays. Any one who cares for English architecture or historical antiquities will find himself the wiser for the study of them. And even the pictures prove to be worth their place in the page, especially some of the interiors, where the clumsy wood-engraving yet retains something of the verisimilitude of the original photograph. Dr. Bonney contributes the introduction and seventeen out of thirty-seven essays on churches, groups of churches, and the like. Thus, after "St. Bartholomew's, Smithfield, and St. Saviour's, Southwark," by Thomas Archer, "Selborne and Eversley; Two Lovers of Nature," by W. Senior, we have "Spires of Coventry," by the editor, and so on; and, luckily, Dr. Bonney's work is rather especially good. It seems that he has looked at English and Continental churches with very discriminating eyes. His fame as a writer on science and on theology and on both together does not prepare one for too ready an acceptance of his views on the ticklish subjects which the title of this book brings to mind; but here, in these pages, is proof of his fitness. He is proved worthy, let him be admitted to the small circle of men who "know themselves" in architectural criticism. It is to be wished that he would avoid the unscholarly and most awkward English use of the word Renaissance, as covering all the revived classic art in England from Elizabeth's time to George Third's, at least. He fidgets in its limitations, as is plainly seen in the introduction.

BOOKS OF THE WEEK.

Abbott, E. Herodotus, Book ix. With notes. Part I. Macmillan & Co. 75 cents.
Abercromby, R. Weather. D. Appleton & Co. $1.75.
Andree, R. Allgemeiner Handatlas. Parts 10-12. (Conclusion.) Leipzig: Velhagen & Klasing; New York: Westermann.
Badeau, A. Grant in Peace: From the Appomattox to Mount McGregor. A Personal Memoir. Hartford: S. S. Scranton & Co.
Battles and Leaders of the Civil War. No. 8. The Century Co. 50 cents.
Bert, P. Introductory Steps in Science. For the use of schools. D. Appleton & Co. $1.05.
Boardman, G. D. The Divine Man, from the Nativity to the Temptation. D. Appleton & Co. $1.50.
Bonney, Rev. T. G. Abbeys and Churches of England and Wales. Descriptive, Historical, Pictorial. Cassell & Co. $5.
Boutwell, G. S. The Lawyer, the Statesman, and the Soldier. D. Appleton & Co. $1.25.
Chamberlain, B. H. Aino Fairy Tales. No. 1. The Hunter in Fairy Land. Boston: Ticknor & Co. 40 cents.
Christmas Eve; or, the Angel Guest. From the Swedish. George R. Lockwood & Son. $1.25.
Clark, S. T. My Garden. Illustrated. Boston: Samuel E. Cassino.
Diaz, Mrs. A. M. Byberry to Beacon Street. Boston: D. Lothrop Co. $1.25.
Dieudonné, Florence C. Rondah; or, Thirty-three Years in a Star. Philadelphia: T. B. Peterson & Bros. 75 cents.
Dodge, Grace H. A Handful of Letters to Busy Girls on Practical Subjects. Funk & Wagnalls. 50 cents.
Engravings on Wood by Members of the Society of American Wood-Engravers. With an introduction and descriptive text by Wm. M. Laffan. Harper & Bros.
Everett, Prof. J. D. Outlines of Natural Philosophy. For schools and general readers. D. Appleton & Co. $1.
Farrer, Rev. F. W. Everyday Christian Life; or, Sermons by the Way. Thomas Whittaker.
Fiske, J. Irving's Life of Washington. Abridged for the use of schools. Boston: Ginn & Co.
Five Hundred Dollars, and Other Stories of New England Life. By C. H. W. Boston: Little, Brown & Co. $1.25.
Foulke, W. D. Slav or Saxon: A Study of the Growth and Tendencies of Russian Civilization. G. P. Putnam's Sons. $1.
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THE exhibitions at the galleries of the American Art Association possess a unique interest in the display of works by American painters abroad. At the inaugural exhibition in these galleries in the autumn of 1884 the large quota of such work formed a prominent feature, and, in the prize-fund exhibitions held each year since, these pictures from artists in Paris, or in the French provinces, or in Munich, and Florence, and Rome, have always been found in comparatively large numbers side by side with the work done at home. Here only could this class of work be seen at all of late years, for almost none of it has been sent to the Academy, and usually only small or unimportant things have appeared at the Society of American Artists. One or two artists have had exhibitions of their own in dealers' galleries, such as

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those of Mr. Dannat's and Mr. Davis's works at Reichard's; but these have been seen by only a few. In the present exhibition most of the Americans abroad are represented whose work has become familiar to the regular visitors to New York exhibitions, and there are some new names besides. Mr. Simmons and Mr. Davis, who have heretofore contributed regularly, have sent nothing this time, and the absence of any work by Messrs. Boggs, Walter Gay, and Grayson may be noted; but Mr. Eugene Vail, a newcomer, exhibits two large and important pictures; Mr. Julian Story, another newcomer, has a picture of almost vast dimensions; and Messrs. Alexander Harrison, Melchers, Bridgman, Howe, and Butler are represented by characteristic examples of their work.

In the pictures by these artists, who are painting under the stimulus of ardent emulation abroad, we are impressed by two things that show in almost every one of their works, namely, sincerity of intention and directness of purpose. There are, for instance, in this exhibition at least half-a-dozen pictures of single figures, some of them painted full length, others half length, but nearly all of life size, in every one of which the artist seems to have well determined beforehand just how he was going to treat his subject. If out of doors, he was in no doubt whatever whether his effect would be that of sunlight at noonday, or late afternoon, or that of the diffused light in gray weather; if indoors, he made up his mind as to how much light to let in at the window and how he should place his model under it. Then, this being once and for all decided upon, he seems to have set about painting it for the sake of painting, and to have completed his picture as he had begun, without experimenting, and without other embellishment than he found in nature before him. Whether the result be deemed entirely or only partially successful, or if even it be a failure outright, it is yet plain to be seen that he attempted something definite, and carried out his purpose as well as his abilities permitted him to do so. Now, although the quality of "picture-making" or imagination on the part of the artist in thinking out a composition calls for the greatest appreciation when we find it, this other quality which must underlie it, and which is perforce the corner-stone of all sound painting—this simple purpose to do one thing and do it well—deserves high commendation, and the more so as it is none too common in the work of the younger artists at home, who are too apt to try to fly before their wings are full grown. That we can find earnest, straightforward study of nature in the pictures sent here from the same class abroad is exceedingly gratifying. It is one of the most hopeful indications of a coming powerful school of American art we can cite.

As an example of this sort of work "Preoccupation," No. 157, by Eurilda L. Loomis, in which interest is added to the study by a pose expressive of thoughtful rest—a simple and unpretentious, but excellent piece of painting—may be instanced. Other examples of the same thing may be seen in "A Cheerful Old Man of Concarneau," No. 254 A, by R. N. Van Trump, and in "L'Hiver," No. 236, by Robert V. V. Sewell. It is well shown, again, in the picture by Miss Mary L. Fairchild, "Les Confidences," No. 114, where the artist has applied it to a study of two figures—a young and an older woman chatting in a garden. They are frankly painted without any humbug, and look exactly what they were in life—two every-day Frenchwomen talking under a tree; and here are the outdoor light and the leaves of the trees catching the sun, and the brambles growing in the corner, making an enjoyable, healthful picture.

For a piece of out-and-out nature painted by a man who shows himself so thoroughly imbued with it that he cares to make a picture of it for its innate beauty, there is nothing more striking in the exhibition than "Open Sea," No. 130, by Alexander Harrison. The frame encloses a stretch of ocean with heavy rolling billows, not big waves spanked into foam by the wind, but slow-moving masses of water, now rising round-topped and now slipping into long hollows. At the top of the canvas there is a bit of evening sky, and the light of the moon above is reflected here and there on the bosom of the waves. The picture is well painted; the effect is rendered without calling attention to the means.

With this beautiful canvas before us it is hard to understand how Mr. Harrison could have allowed himself to send out such a half-hearted picture as "Le Maïs," No. 131. It is a landscape, showing in the foreground an American cornfield, with the stalks "topped off," and the ears of corn left hanging to dry. A little girl is coming through the field, and in the distance is the early evening sky and a row of massive, round-topped trees, which catch the red light of the setting sun. The distant parts of the picture are successful enough, and there is very good technical work throughout the canvas, but quite unlike nature are the light pinkish earth and the bright yellow cornstalks in the foreground. This part of the picture, moreover, is out of key with the rest, and, taken by itself, looks as if it had been painted at midday. The figure of the little girl is extremely perfunctory. How such an artistic "slip" as this picture is to be accounted for, we are unable to say; but perhaps the fact that it was painted from recollection and notes only, and 3,000 miles away from the scene of the picture itself, may serve in part to explain it—will explain its lack of character at least, if not its incompleteness as a pictorial whole.

"Sur la Tamise," No. 256, by Eugene Vail, is a notable example of successful treatment of a rather difficult effect by an artist of no mean ability, who evidently set to work to make the best picture possible out of a commonplace subject. A heavy row-boat with a couple of children in it, riding on the dirty waters of the Thames, with the walls and towers of smoky London for a background, and all enveloped in a yellow fog, is the subject. Mr. Vail has been attracted by its picturesqueness, and has painted it soundly and with much truth of observation. It is one of the best pictures, taken altogether, that have been sent from abroad in the past year. "Widowed," No. 255, by the same artist, is, like the other, a large picture, and is to be especially commended for completeness and for largeness of style. The widow, who stands on the beach with the storm-beaten sea behind her and her little son at her side, is a life-size figure. In her black dress, which the wind whirls around her legs and blows out to one side, she has a great deal of dignity, and the little boy, sturdily planted on his feet to withstand the force of the storm, is excellently handled. In color the picture inclines to blackishness, and it must be said that its excellence is entirely dependent on the arrangement of the figures, and the comprehensive way in which it is painted, entirely apart from the color quality.

"Moonrise—St. Ives," No. 9, by Howard R. Butler, is a charming sea-shore view, with some fishing-boats drawn up on the beach and a group of children playing on the sands in the immediate foreground. It is a large canvas, like so many others here, and is remarkable for breadth and skilful painting. There is no forcing of the effect—boats, children, the long, white pier jutting out into the sea at the left, the quiet evening sky with the full moon half revealed above a bank of clouds at the horizon, are all truthfully rendered, and the canvas bears throughout the impress of sincerity and true artistic feeling. It is subdued and refined in color.

Those who have been interested in the work of Mr. J. Gary Melchers in previous exhibitions, beginning, if we are not mistaken, with a water-color, "A Dutch Bachelor's Breakfast," in the exhibition of the Society at the Academy in 1885, will find cause for satisfaction in the excellent picture by him in the present exhibition, "In Holland," No. 180. The two figures of Dutch peasant girls in this picture, the one in the foreground with the rake, and the other a little beyond carrying water-pails, are strongly painted in a landscape of simple and impressive beauty. The color is daring, with its introduction of such difficult notes as lilac and blue, but it is agreeable to the eye as a whole, and the drawing is thoroughly good. "Return of the Herd, Uplands of Normandy," No. 133, by William F. Howe, is a large picture, larger than any in this exhibition, where large canvases predominate, except Mr. Story's, and is one of the best pictures of cattle that have been seen in any recent exhibition we remember. There is nothing particularly striking about it; it has no dash and go like Julien Dupré's cattle painting, for instance, and it has no great color quality like Troyon's, or cleverness like Van Marcke's, but it has merits of of its own. For one thing, the cattle are real cattle, with hair on their backs and not chunks of paint. Then, again, they are standing on ground, where one can see their legs down to the hoofs, and see that they are well-drawn legs such as cattle might use to walk on, not wooden legs that do well enough to stick into marsh grass or the water of a pool that covers them up to the knees. Again, Mr. Howe's cattle are standing stupidly on a hillside, each one occupied with himself, and not all grouping and posing around one central animal in the middle of the canvas with his head front to the spectator. To say that Mr. Howe has made a cattle picture without resorting to well-known tricks, and has painted some natural-looking cows in a quiet, handsome landscape, is to say that he has distinguished himself indeed, and this is what he has done.

Two pictures, "The Neighbors—On the Terraces of Algiers" (No. 34) and "A Street at the Kashbah—Algiers" (No. 35), by Frederick A. Bridgman, are conspicuous in this exhibition by their flippant cleverness. True, it is cleverness of the better sort, with an artistic temperament back of it, and it hits oftener than it misses in its brilliant dash; but it remains flippant and insincere. Both pictures evince great self-reliance and consciousness of ability to strike surely at each dash of the brush, and it is such work as only a man with remarkable command of his means could produce. It is by no means petty cleverness, for there is no attempt at anything like mere prettiness. On the contrary, there is a general air of truth, and there is some very delicate and tender color in parts of the work: it is on the side of carelessness that it offends, and leaves the same impression as that made by the violinist who can play *à merveille* if he tries, but who chooses to hurry through his piece and get to the end regardless of a slip or a false note here and there. However, Mr. Bridgman's reputation rests on a solid basis, and perhaps these pictures are not fairly representative of his present work. They are certainly not representative of his best.

"A Shower—Rue Bonaparte," No. 140, by Childe Hassam, a picture of a well-known street in the Latin Quarter, with a long row

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of cabs standing in the rain, and, though somewhat tentatively painted, yet in the main a good impression and a truthful piece of work; "Washed Ashore," No. 221, by Charles S. Reinhart, a large picture depicting an incident in fisher life on the Normandy coast, where a rural gendarme, note-book in hand, is jotting down the facts connected with the finding of the body of a drowned man on the beach, and men and women are standing about him; "Episode of the September Massacres, Paris, 1792," by Julian Story, in which the well-known incident of Mlle. de Sombreuil and the goblet filled with aristocrats' blood is the subject—a picture with nothing exceptionally good about it, and no particular faults either, but as the work of a young painter a canvas of considerable promise, and an exceedingly creditable performance in view of the complex nature of the subject, the large number of figures introduced, and the historical requirements of the subject; "A Fool's Fool," No. 57, by Thomas S. Clarke, an interior with a figure in a jester's costume of red surrounded by various articles of studio bric-à-brac tastefully disposed withal, and showing some good qualities of color; "Visit of the Marquise," No. 171, by Henry Mosler, a cleverly painted Breton subject, with figures of peasants and people of quality in the artist's familiar style of treatment of interiors; two carefully painted figure pictures, "The Mandolin-Player," No. 173, and "A Quiet Hour," No. 174, by F. D. Millet; a small picture with figures, "In the Café," No. 147, by Robert Köhler, and "Un Incident au Village," No. 37, by Amanda Brewster, a cottage interior with two figures of a woman and a boy looking out of a window into the street of a French village—are the other most important pictures in the collection among the large number of works from France and other places in Europe.

If the part of the exhibition which we have been considering is interesting, and gives cause for congratulation on the advance of American art as it is exemplified by the artists who are either permanently settled abroad or are there temporarily for the purpose of study, the work in the same galleries side by side with it from the home artists is not less noteworthy. If it is in general less ambitious, it is more diversified, and especially in the field of landscape there is gratifying progress on all sides. In this connection we may mention a remarkable bit of painting in pastel, "Sunlight and Shadow in Prospect Park," No. 66, by Wm. M. Chase; a cattle picture of great excellence, "A Pastoral," No. 258, by Horatio Walker; a good piece of genre painting, "Reminiscences," No. 129, by Charles X. Harris; and landscapes by Messrs. Bogert, Tryon, Ochtman, Minor, and Middleton.

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